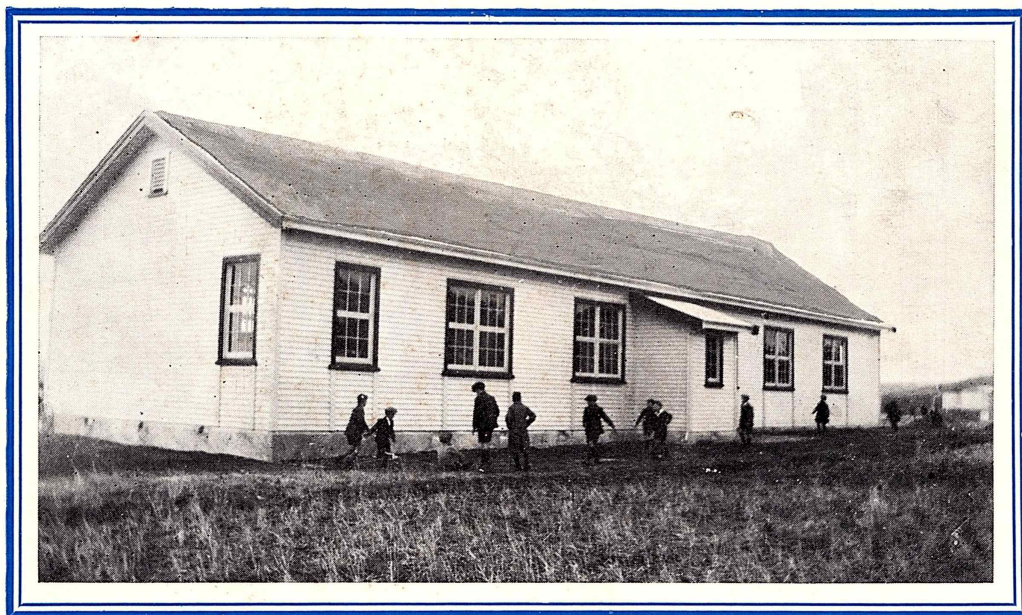


# Hawarden

## District High School



### Jubilee

1927 = 1977



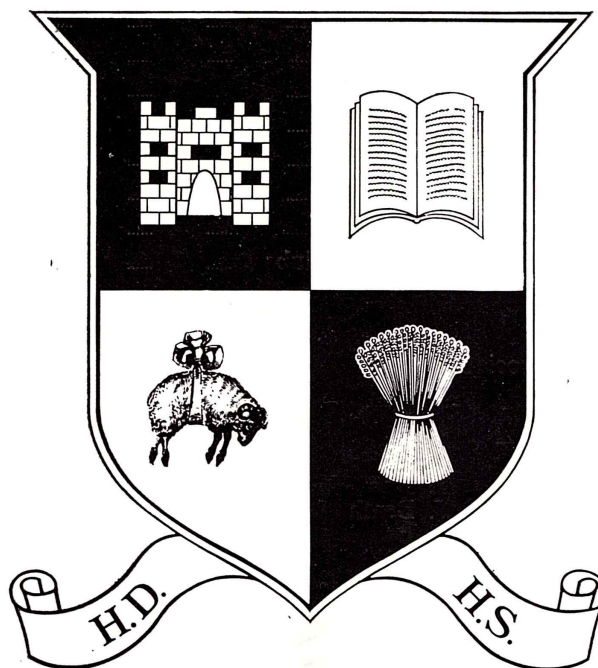


# Harwarden

— CONTRIBUTING SCHOOLS —

## District High School

1927 - 1977



DISCE UT DOCEAS  
Enter to Learn, Leave to Serve

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## **Acknowledgements**



I wish to express my heartfelt appreciation, not only to those who have sent in information, articles and photographs, and those whom it was a privilege to interview, but especially to my husband Bruce, whose patience and co-operation made it possible for me to complete this book; to my mother, known to most as Joyce Manning, who checked the scripts, and to Miss Susan Manning who typed them.

It is impossible for me to acknowledge the contribution of so many who helped, and whose expertise helped make this work possible. Sheer weight of numbers precludes my thanking them all individually. Those who did help me, know who they are, and have my everlasting gratitude.

For any inaccuracies and omissions I sincerely apologise. I have done considerable time-consuming research, sifting and cataloguing of information. It has been an onerous task, but if it succeeds in paying tribute to our forebears, the people, each one who has been associated with the school and given his best, then it has all been worthwhile.

Maria Evans, 1977

## **Chairman's Message**

*The fiftieth Jubilee Celebrations of Hawarden and District Schools marked the anniversary of the Consolidation of the five older outlying schools to the present central site in Hawarden.*

*The District High School has been an outstanding asset to the area during its 50 years of existence, and many children have passed through its classrooms to become successful and responsible adults. During the Jubilee, several people remarked to me that the school had not produced any members of Parliament. Neither has it, to the best of my knowledge, produced any criminals.*

*The District High School at Hawarden has now ceased to exist as such and we have in its place, the Hawarden Area School. This reorganisation means in effect, that the Primary and Secondary departments are now merged into one integrated school. Area Schools have an improved teacher pupil ratio, better grants for equipment etc., and more buildings than under the old D.H.S. code.*

*It is a source of some disappointment to me that the recent attempt by school supporters, to build a Gymnasium, was foiled by rising building costs, and we were unable to have this building for the Jubilee. However a Gymnasium-Assembly Hall is one of the new buildings provided for an Area School, so let us hope that we will see this facility at the school in the near future.*

*I am confident that Hawarden Area School will continue and improve on, the traditions set by the D.H.S., and its pupils will continue to say with pride "I went to Hawarden School".*

*This message would be incomplete without a tribute being paid to Principals and Staff members, both past and present. Their dedication to the ideals of teaching at all levels and subjects is truly reflected in the recognised good reputation of the school.*

*I wish to thank all the members of the organising Committee for their enthusiasm and untiring efforts. At no time did I feel that leadership of this team was in any way a burden. I hope that the generally acknowledged success of the Jubilee is sufficient reward to them.*

*Despite my education at Hawarden, I find I am at a loss for words to adequately thank Maria Evans for the preparation of this book. Her achievement to start from scratch and gather all the material, meticulously check the accuracy of information, and set it out in book form has been a truly outstanding effort, made all the more so by the addition, during the book's preparation, of a son, Simon, to Maria and Bruce's family.*

*This book is a valuable historical record which fills a big gap in the history of the Hawarden School and District.*

*David Reese,  
Chairman Jubilee Organising Committee.*



## **Principal's Comment**

Becoming a Principal of a new school and inheriting an imminent Jubilee can be a rather daunting proposition for anyone. However any concern I might have had was soon dispelled when I met and talked with David Reese and his committee. They had everything fully under control and were highly organised. They required a speech from me at the Opening of the weekend and that was all. I was free to enjoy the rest of the Jubilee weekend and I did, thanks to David and his committee. The whole weekend was a great success. I would like to congratulate David and his team on their varied and efficiently-run programme. Great credit must be given to them. Yet some credit for the success of the Jubilee must also go to another group—you, the people who came in your hundreds to gather at your old school to show your strength of feeling for it and to revel in memories of former joys and sorrows connected with your school days. Without you, and there were many enrolments (approximately 960), the efforts of the Jubilee Committee would have failed. Thanks to you all for making the Jubilee the success that it was.

Over the years Hawarden District High School and the other earlier schools of the district have done their best to provide for the needs of the children of the district. It is right and proper that ceremonies should be held at appropriate times to honour the schools and to remember with affection the people, the successes and no doubt the odd failure or two. As times change so the demands of society alter the educational requirements for students and it is rather fitting that after 50 years of education in the Consolidated Hawarden D.H.S. the time has arrived for the departure of one type of rural education and the arrival of another which is more suited to the educational needs of today's students. 1977 sees the end of Hawarden District High School and the birth of Hawarden Area School. Hawarden Area School will be dedicated to serving its community in the new way just as the former schools have done in their way.

In today's world the Area School is more suited to cater for the needs of the students in the community it serves. It has been established directly for this purpose. In an Area School all classes from the very youngest in the J1 room to the oldest in Form 6 and 7 are an integral part of the total school and staff are dedicated to providing as much as is possible in the academic, social, cultural and sporting development of all students.

What are the aspects that make the Area School different from the District High School system.

Firstly the number of teaching staff is increased quite considerably. Along with the increase in total staff numbers is the considerable increase of senior staff and special staff. There are two major advantages of this increase:

(a) With the larger number of teachers will come a much wider range of abilities, interests and teaching strengths.

(b) Resulting from this increase mentioned in (a) comes the opportunity to broaden courses, particularly in the senior school. The junior school also benefits by having access to these specialist teachers.

When teachers join an Area School they are no longer regarded as necessarily primary or secondary teachers as in the past. Their talents, strengths and interests can be used anywhere throughout the school where they can be of greatest benefit to the children within the school. The school is a much more unified institution than the old dichotomy of secondary and primary of the D.H.S. system.

Contributing schools are able to send their students to the Area Schools at the Form 1 level rather than at the Form 3 level. With the majority of school subject programmes being developed on the four year period of Forms 1, 2, 3 and 4 it seems much more sensible that the opportunity be given to the children of the contributing schools to join the Area School at the beginning of the 4 year period, rather than in the middle of it.

As well as benefiting from a greater continuity of programmes these children from contributing schools gain the benefit of more specialist teachers two years earlier than under the old D.H.S. system.

With the translation from District High Schools to Area Schools the Education Boards and the Education Department have increased and improved equipment and monetary grants. These grants and the additional equipment are very welcome in the setting up of these new schools.

Buildings, although a longer term feature of the establishment of an Area School, are none the less very important aspects of the new school. An Area School obtains as of right such new buildings as a multi-purpose hall/gymnasium, specialist music and art rooms, a new and much larger library, resource space, teacher work-room space, increased office and storage space and rooms that are more suited to the teaching of the senior school options with their resultant smaller classes. When all building is eventually completed the community will have in its midst a much more handsome and efficient institution which can be used much more effectively by the community at large.

Area Schools are dedicated to providing for the needs of their communities. To do this effectively the schools and their communities must come into much closer contact than ever before. I see the Area Schools becoming much more of a community school than the old D.H.S. were able to be. The name itself, Area School, suggests that it is to be the educational institution for the community of

the whole area that it serves. It is to be hoped that many adults may return to school as students in senior classes in order to further their learning in their areas of interest. It is to be hoped that more members of the community can be involved in the planning and carrying through of programmes of work.

Probably the group within the school community who will benefit most from the new Area Schools will be the senior students. Subject options at the Form 5 level can and will be increased markedly; Form 6 will become an integral and fully taught class with a good range of subjects being offered; Form 7 will become a permanent feature of these new Area Schools if there are sufficient numbers to warrant its setting up. Senior students will not have to go away to school to complete their secondary education, they will be able to complete it at their own school.

The District High School system was a good system within the limits that were set upon it for the years during which it catered for student needs. The Area School system has been created to cater for the increased needs of today's students and also for the whole community. It is a new school for a new era. Just as Hawarden District High School did all it could for its students and community so will Hawarden Area School dedicate itself to cope with today's increased demands and to cater as fully as possible for the diverse needs of its students and community as a whole.

R. J. Pilkington,  
B.A., Dip. Ed., Dip. Tchg.  
(Principal  
Hawarden Area School).



## **Some of our Early History**

A visitor to the Waipara County, arriving at the Waikari Saddle and gazing over the prosperous farmlands to the foothills, would find it hard to visualise the swamp, tussock, and manuka scrub that greeted the settlers. Those hardy pioneers considered it good clean country however, though its only livestock then was wild pigs.

### **Horsley Down**

Frequently regarded as the first settler, George Edward Mason, (who may share this honour with his friends, the Sidey brothers, Charles and Alexander) arrived after four months voyage on the "Castle Eden" in February 1851.

Soon after, in company with the Sidey brothers he went to look for land. Eventually going to the Hawarden District, he took up a block of land, which he named "Horsley Down", taking the name from "Horsley Court", his family's old home in England.

### **Mason's Flat**

After their first home was burned down, the Masons shifted to the Birchdale run, in the district now known as Mason's Flat.

About the year 1854, surveyors went to the district. Gangs doing this work were fed by the settlers, who were anxious to have their boundaries fixed. George Mason's first run, "Horsley Down", was reputed to have been of 30,000 acres. It was next occupied by James Lance when the latter arrived about 1861.

Mt. Mason and then the Virginia Country, were next taken up by George Mason, these properties later being transferred to other settlers, and he settled then at Mason's Flat, calling the home he built "Springbank" which was in the Waipara riding of the Cheviot County. At the 1901 census, Mason's Flat had 33 inhabitants.

### **Lankey Town**

A few years after this there sprang up a small settlement called Lankey Town, after the Lancashire folk. This was on the north side of the Waitohi Gorge Bridge and on the other side was the hotel where diggers called for supplies. The well-known "Black Hut" was on this side also—a camp for the night.

### **Manuka Town**

Being of aristocratic blood and known here as Squire Manning, whom even the Lances of the Horsley Down Estate "tipped their hats to," Mr Robert R. Manning emigrated from Bedfordshire in 1876 bringing with him his family of eight sons and three daughters. He entered an engagement with Mr G. H. Moore of "Glenmark" as Homestead Manager, to put under cultivation, the homestead block of 6,000 acres. Having completed his engagement in 1880, he purchased a small grazing property on the Hurunui quarantine Reserve—it being redesignated a public reserve and given the name "Victoria Park" before becoming the Hurunui Race-course. He changed the name of Manuka Town to Medbury after his home town. The property he had chosen was drier and therefore better than home, he thought.

Medbury district was in the Waipara Riding of the County of Ashley, the population of the settlement being 130 in the 1901 census.

### **The Peaks**

The Peaks village settlement was formed in 1887 under the government Land Settlement, by 18 settlers taking up 900 acres of land on the perpetual lease system, on a part of the Horsley Down run. Neat little cottages were surrounded by plantations of shelter trees, originally the gift of Mr J. D. Lance.

Mr Cyril T. White, one of the pioneers of the Peaks settlement, was instrumental in advancing the prosperity of the settlement by promoting representations which

led to the holdings being enlarged, and also by the establishment of a school. He later became a committee member and finally Chairman.

Mr William Hewett was only six weeks old when he arrived in 1887 by horse and dray, to live in a one roomed house built of sod. His mother evidently was the first woman to live in the settlement. "Grandpa" arriving two years later, carried the first mail to the settlement, first on horseback and later by horse and trap. It is recorded that he carried this for the next 25 years without missing a single mail day.

N.B. In the book "Cylopaedia of New Zealand, volume three, Canterbury", the school is spelt "Waiotahi". Whether this is accurate or not I don't know, I can only quote my reference.

### **A New Era Begins**

The discovery of gold on the West Coast brought increased traffic. Cobb and Company began their Stage Coach Services to Hurunui in 1864, coming through the Weka Pass which supported a Hotel and nearby a toll gate.

The Hurunui Bridge, which was well on in construction, was swept away in a huge flood in 1868, to be rebuilt further down-stream.

"Hastie's" accommodation House was closed, and the present Hurunui grew on the re-aligned main track from Christchurch to Nelson and the West Coast—the present limestone hotel built during 1868-69. It was therefore easy to see why Medbury School was first called Hurunui Side School.

The railway came to the Pass in 1879 and a new era had begun.

### **Schooling**

As the district was opened up, more people came, eager to buy farms and build their homes. Boundary riders, road markers and others similarly employed moved in.

There were no such things as schools. The children who were lucky enough to be taught, were educated in their homes by parents, friends, or relations, without the aid of correspondence. It is doubtful that a governess was common to the district, though a small private school opened in the Weka Pass in 1872, is the first school recorded in the area. This had to be removed to its present site in 1882 when the railway was continued through to Waikari.

Small one-teacher public schools with low rolls were introduced to each district; there being five in all. The first public school was opened at Mason's Flat in April 1881. Children walked, rode or drove to school, and the teacher Mr Brownlee, held evening classes for adults. Hurunui followed in December of the same year. Schools were built also at Medbury, Horsley Down, and The Peaks, consolidating to Hawarden in 1927.

Though limited in scope, they, nevertheless, filled a very necessary gap in the educational needs of the county, for it was not unusual for an adult to be unable to read or write.

### **Croppers**

The croppers worked up the ground, some giving one eighth of the crop for rent and all expenses found. Some land-owners rented land for 10/- an acre. Squatters had taken up blocks of land up to 1,000 acres and fences began to be put up. This was hastened because Scab was troublesome and a huge dip was built in Hurunui situated close to the old Hurunui race track, with another later at the Washpen Creek, Horsley Down. The Lance brothers sold out, and Horsley Down was broken up in the 1890s. Many of those who had been working on the station now settled on their farms. Settlers tended to move out of sheep and into cropping.

"Allandale" was the home of James Little who built up the Corriedale breed, it being stronger in constitution than, and withstanding the winter equally as well as, the Merino, while possessing more flesh in proportion to fat than the long wools.



### Town Growth

Mr John O'Carroll had a general store at the crossroads at Hawarden, and another at Woodgrove corner at Mason's Flat. He also ran the Post Office there. The Post Office was later taken over by Miss Pohl until the mail runs started. In Hawarden itself the Post Office was situated at the Railway Station.

In 1902 the New Zealand Farmers' Co-operative opened its store at Hawarden. Another necessary service was provided by the blacksmith's shop. At this time the blacksmith was Mr Quinlivan—a corrupt form of his name survives in Quinlan Street.

Bread came from the baker in Waikari, Mr Martin Wohnus, who it is said, baked up to 14,000 loaves a week, in 2 ovens capable of holding 140 large loaves, to supply an area from Amberley to Waiau.

A highly respected couple after the turn of the century, were Doctor C. T. W. Little and his wife, practising from Hawarden before the Doctor's residence at Waikari was built.

Doctor Little gave wonderful selfless service over a wide area and his statue now stands before the Waikari Hospital, looking over the country he served.

The days when it was a great achievement to be a good hand with the scythe have long since gone, but there remain some adults today who remember rising early as children to the whistle of threshing mills, which had arrived overnight. They recall with a certain amount of nostalgia, helping with stooking, carting and stacking sheaves, and being rewarded by the cook with scones, that surely tasted better than Mum's.



Leaving for Home—Masons Flat





**Masons Flat School 1922**

Teacher: Miss D. E. Roscoe Now Mrs J. R. Taggart.



**Masons Flat early 1920s**

**Back Row (Left to right):** —. Shaw, M. Blake, W. Fincham, R. Jury, B. Stancomb, B. White, P. Jury, J. Montgomery, T. Smellie, G. Earl, E. Anderson, G. Mason, (————), G. Shaw.

**2nd Row:** P. Jury, J. Jury, Mr McAdam (Schoolmaster), E. Chesterton, R. Chesterton, V. Earl, W. Mason, M. Pohl.

**3rd Row:** A. Crean, J. Montgomery, M. Montgomery, M. Leary, M. Netting, D. Mason, V. Mason, R. White, A. Mason, H. Netting, E. Mason, O. Galletly, Miss —. Low.

**Sitting:** M. Crean, J. Galletly, L. Chesterton, D. Mason, N. Leary, A. Pohl (Standing), R. Shaw, G. Earl.



## **Mason's Flat**

**Opened 25th April, 1881**

Understood to have been built by Mr Lance, this one-roomed wooden building with an iron roof, and a porch, was to be typical of the schools built in the area. It could accommodate fifty pupils.

The school premises occupied five acres of land, well planted with ornamental and shelter trees, also allowing for a good-sized playground and a convenient 5 roomed residence with a garden.

For a number of years the school supplied the requirements of Hawarden, Horsley Down and Mason's Flat districts.

Of course all schools have their "greats", and the Mason's Flat pupils are quick to point out that James Wattie, later Sir James Wattie of tinned food fame, was a pupil of the school.

Former pupils also boast that their school had a titled teacher in Lady Le Fleming, wife of Sir Andrew. Mrs E. Taggart, who boarded with Mrs Fred Dalzell and taught at the same school with Lady Le Fleming, recalls how Lady Le Fleming always wore a hat, veil and gloves to school—the gloves never being taken off. She always stayed at the best hotels in the city, and her lily white hands proved she was a "Lady". Miss Frazer, her sister, kept house and taught sewing at the school.

Lady Le Fleming was a strict disciplinarian (never a whisper!). Pupils I have contacted consider her a popular teacher. Mr John Montgomery remembers Lady Le Fleming taking him over to the

school house for Miss Frazer to attend a swelling when a ladder had fallen on him. When he saw a very large carving knife, he pleaded with her not to cut the lump off as he wanted to show his mother. Little did he realise that cold steel was used successfully to reduce swelling.

She travelled widely after her retirement, and was known for her interest in archeology in Eastern Countries.

Mason's Flat boasted the husband of a teacher being a "washer man" who used his spare time doing laundry work for farmer's wives. Best of all, he did not charge for his service. Some tobacco was usually slipped into his pocket instead. He cadged cigarettes from any farmer passing by with stock, and accepted sandwiches from pupils who passed them under a macrocarpa hedge.

Mrs W. J. J. Earl ( [redacted] ) recalls watching hunts from the school grounds, and seeing her first motor car when Fred Lance drove by. She recalls pupils walking from Hui Hui, another two double-banking on a horse from Mt. Hilton, and those not getting to school when the river was in flood. Bicycles were few. Most pupils walking were chased by magpies and blown by strong nor' wester. She remembers annual picnics down to the river, with parents in attendance, hot cocoa in winter and playing rounders, hop-sotch or skipping.

Dances were held in the school which also housed a Library.



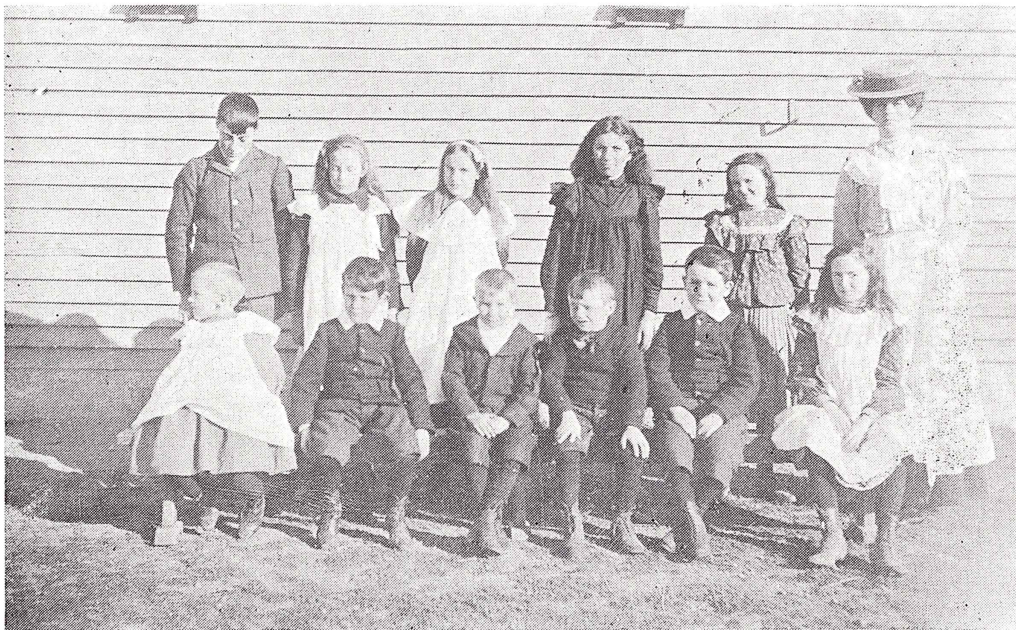


**Hurunui September 1896**

**Back Row:** Ethel Powis, Maggie McKay, Jean Earsham, Cis Hays, Jim Hays, Matt Forrester, Jerry Shelley, Jim Forrester, Mr A. Hyde (Teacher).

**Centre Row:** Bell Earsham, Alice Powis, Nell Forrester, Torry Gray, Jim Earsham, Bill Hayes, Joe Gray, Harry Gidy.

**Front Row:** Harry Powis, George Gray, Tom McKay.



**Hurunui July 1908 (Postcard)**

**John Forrester, Ena Dickie, Mary Dickie, Peggy McKinnon, Flossie Milner. Teacher: Miss Dalby.**

**Front Row:** Mina Dickie, Les Fletcher, Monell Dickie, Bowi Milner, Jim Fletcher, Rhoda Milner.



## **Hurunui**

**Opened 5th December, 1881**

Situated on the south side of the Hurunui River, servicing the Cobb and Co. coaches en route north to Culverden, Waiau and the inland route to Kaikoura.

The focal point in Hurunui was the Hotel or accommodation house, "the stone Jug" as it was affectionately called. (It was built of limestone blocks quarried from the Karaka Creek).

The 1901 census credits the village with a population of 58 people. A small one teacher school was established on 5th December, 1881 to service the needs of the settler's children. The teacher was a vital asset to the community, sometimes dispensing first aid, or assisting with those who over imbibed. Pupils who had passed proficiency standard, often continued at school helping teach the little ones, and furthering their own education. Most pupils, however were needed to help at home, or earn a wage to supplement the family income. The mail was received and dispatched there three times a week.

Established in 1881 together with Mason's Flat it was the earliest school opened in the district. A study of the record of teachers shows that few stayed more than two years, and many only one. The rigour of isolation, poor roads, and

the paucity of community facilities contributed to teachers of this sole-charge school staying little more than a year.

In his reply to the toast to the separate schools made by Mr L. Smellie at the Jubilee in 1952, Mr T. W. McKay said that "Hurunui had been fortunate in its educational facilities which embraced the University of Hurunui—the Stone Jug".

Known Chairmen of the School Committee were: 1890, Mr Robert A. Forrester; 1895 Mr Archibald Earsham; (—) Mr Murdock McKay; (—) Mr John Kilsyth Forrester.

Mr Forrester was also a member of the Hurunui Turf Club which held the major event in the area—the Boxing Day Hurunui Races.

Indicative of the social amenities in the area, was a fact that Mr Forrester was a life member of the Hawarden Scottish Society, Director of The Saleyards Company, on the Agricultural and Pastoral Association, and the Collie Club.

The contribution Mr Forrester made to the consolidated school was recognised with the hanging in the school of an enlarged photograph of him suitably inscribed.





#### **Hurunui 1917**

**Back Row:** Dick Thomas, Nellie Boucher, Bert Lamb, Quninie Boucher, Sandy Murray, Lillian Lamb, Gordon Murray.

**Front Row:** Eddie Murray, Lillian Bamford, Madge Murray, Winnie Thomas, Hope Boucher, Betty Bamford, David Murray.  
**Teacher:** Miss Rivers.



#### **Medbury School 1911**

.. N.B. This school had its own bell tower)

Pat Butler, Harry Manning, Ben Topp, Laurie Plaister, Bill Topp, Laurie Honeybone, Gordon Dalzell, Eileen Butler, Alf Topp, Maggie Gardner, Gertie Plaisted, Claude Withell, Alan Dalzell (White Hat), Douglas Dalzell, Les Fletcher, Gertie Manning, Kathleen Butler, Colin Gardner (fist closed), Myrtle Dalzell, Daphne Fletcher, Vera Honeybone, Evelyn Honeybone, Ted Manning, Bill Thomas, Martha Butler, Mabel Manning.



## ***Hurunui Side School***

**Opened 1887**

**Became**

## ***Medbury***

**March 1888**

Six years after the Hurunui Primary School was opened, the Medbury area, with the population of 130 sought a separate school. The "Hurunui Side School" as it was called, opened in 1887 with a plan, typical of the era, with one 22 feet by 17 feet 6 inches room and a cloak room, but most importantly—a school bell. The bell was transferred to the consolidated school in Hawarden when the Medbury School closed.

These early schools were built in a paddock with little if any concrete surrounding. There was a large paddock beyond this school which the Education Board reserved as a holding paddock for the children's horses or their mode of transport.

At opposite extremities of the "play ground" were the toilets—the boys in one corner and the girls in the other. No paths for access, so no wonder girls wore boots to negotiate the long grass, though many children went bare footed to school. The boys wore large caps and the girls were bedecked in frilly white pinafores.

The provision of fire wood to stoke the large open fire was always a problem. The teacher's table was placed next to the fire place and the pupils at the back of the room shivered. In our photograph I noticed the porch window was broken. Most former pupils have stories of the

breaking of windows by resentful children having been kept in after school. Bus children cannot be punished in this way so some other form of punishment is always enforced.

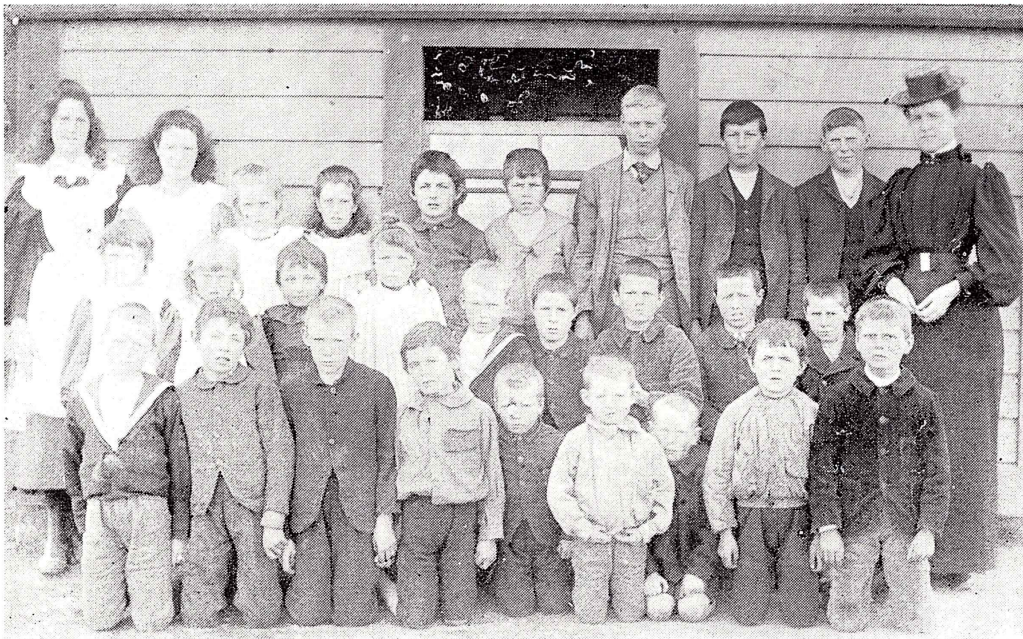
Medbury school was situated on the main road between Hawarden and Hurunui, east of the railway line. This road was known by the locals as "The strand". It was noted for the boulders and flannel leaf plants which grew in profusion at the road side.

The arrival of the train at the flag station of Medbury daily, was as an event, the highlight of the day. Mails were received and dispatched each day and the letters and papers were taken home after school by many of the school children. The train was filled with water from the well known Medbury water tank renowned for its purity and its availability. Not so the school who relied on rain water.

Like the other district contributing schools, Medbury was remodelled to become the centre for the district—the meeting Hall. Medbury is renowned for its hospitality, the togetherness and community caring. The hall has rung with music and dancing and celebrations for the people who belong there.

The spirit in the school, the pride in their own community lives on.





#### **The Peaks 1894 or 1895**

**Front Row:** John White, Jim Bolger, Frank Elliott, Joe Bolger, Tom Costello, —, White, Jack Hamilton, Tom Bolger, Bill Costello.

**Centre:** Gwen Jones, Dorothy White, Sis Costello, Edie Elliot, Douglas White, Harry Jones, Pat Costello, Jack Dooley, Frank Dooley.

**Back Row:** Barbara Hamilton, Kate Jones, Winnie White, Dolly Elliott, John Bolger, Bill Hewett, Cuthbert White, Mick Costello, Bill Hamilton.

**Teacher:** Miss Little (later Mrs Sidey).



#### **The Peaks (about 1913)**

This is a Post Card

Kathy Roberts, Freda Roberts, Nan Costello, Thelma Scott, Adelaide Roberts, Sarah Hobbs, Florence MacIntosh, Ted Scott, Reg White, Cecil White, Stan Scott.



## **Waitohi**

1891-1899

Became

## **The Peaks**

1900

The Education Board agreed to open a school at the Peaks if the residents there could guarantee a roll of 20 pupils on opening day. Here Bill Hewett, aged four years, filled the roll, and the school was opened. He later served as Chairman of the School committee both here and at Hawarden for a total of 17 years.

The school was in an isolated position, quite some distance from the nearest home, and most children had an appreciable mileage to travel every day. One boy waded the Waitohi River twice a day to reach the school. Another family of four rode all together on a horse. Teachers usually rode horses, though a husband brought one teacher a Model T Ford. The usual school-boy pranks were played on the school teachers who rode. When they saddled their horse after school, a little gorse was placed under the tail or saddle. They then waited for the unfortunate teacher to mount. Then if she managed to stay on, they escorted a spirited horse and rider home. Another laugh on the teacher was a race home, with those Mannings and Hewetts going straight ahead while the teacher's horse shot off a side road leaving her travelling alone for some yards in a horizontal position.

Mr H. C. Quigley writes "School games were never very highly organised. A football was kicked around with hardened bare feet, by both girls and boys."

The end of year picnic was something to look forward to. We travelled by horse-drawn waggon to either the Hurunui or the Waitohi River for the day. Races were run, apples and sweets distributed, and a grand day had by all concerned. Once the picnic was held at Leithfield Beach. Most of us had not been there before. An early start in a canvas topped bus hired from a garage in Culverden took us and we had a day in the sand, sea and sun—then we were ready for another year.

Eventually the big day came around, examinations, the dreaded Proficiency examination for Standard 6. By this time the teacher had a Model T Ford Coupe. The Standard 6 class comprised of two jittery scholars who climbed into the car with the teacher. Disaster struck. 50 per cent of the Peaks contingent failed, the net result being one pupil left to start his life of toil. The other spent two years in Christchurch endeavouring to add something to what he had learned at "The Peaks."





#### Prize-giving The Peaks School 1915

**Back Row:** Mrs W. Manning, Mrs Banks, O. Hewett (Teacher), Miss Penny, Mrs Scott, Mr Scott, Mr W. Manning.

**Middle Row:** W. Crean, L. H. White, M. Crean, C. White, S. Scott, A. Manning, Mrs U. T. White, baby, Mr U. T. White (Chairman), F. Manning, (—), E. Scott, R. White, (—), R. Manning.

**Bottom Row:** A. Gorrie (Manning), —, Roberts, —, Stewart, S. Hobbs, P. Manning, L. Manning, E. Manning, —, Roberts, —, Roberts, V. Manning.



#### The Peaks 1920

Walter McDonald, Vern Manning, Len Manning, Logan Quigley, Gladys (Doll) Manning, Doris Wright, Miss Sloss (Teacher).  
 Jim McDonald, Campbell Quigley, Kathy Quigley, Gwyn Costello, Nan Costello, Billie Costello.



# **Horsley Down School**

**Opened 1902**

Mr George Edward Mason purchased land in 1851 naming it Horsley Down after Horsley Court, his family home in England, later selling it to Mr James Dupre Lance.

In its hey-day, particularly when shearing was in progress, Horsley Down had the life of a township on a Christmas Eve; the number of employees practically requiring the amenities of a town.

Near the end of the '80s, Mr Lance gave the site for a school near the Washpen Bridge, plus ten acres for the accommodation of the children's ponies, a condition being that if the school should be closed, or removed else where, the land was to revert to the family. This happened, and Mr F. Lance, in 1935, was handed the old property back.

Water for the school was drawn from a well by a cast iron hand pump. This would often require priming with water which was difficult to find on frosty mornings when cold stiff fingers latched over the ice cold iron handle.

Below the pump was the trough providing drinking water for the children's horses or a venue for a new pupil's initiation ceremony.

Horsley Down led a very active existence holding frequent concerts in the Hawarden Hall, whether they be to farewell a teacher or doctor, provide Christmas parcels for soldiers of the district,

Belgian Children's Relief Fund, or money to purchase a piano for example. There were vocal items by the school children, recitations, maybe an auction, a general sing-along and normally ending in a dance. Takings such as £29 and £31 have been recorded for such occasions.

## **Proficiency Examination—**

### **Outlying Schools Centralised**

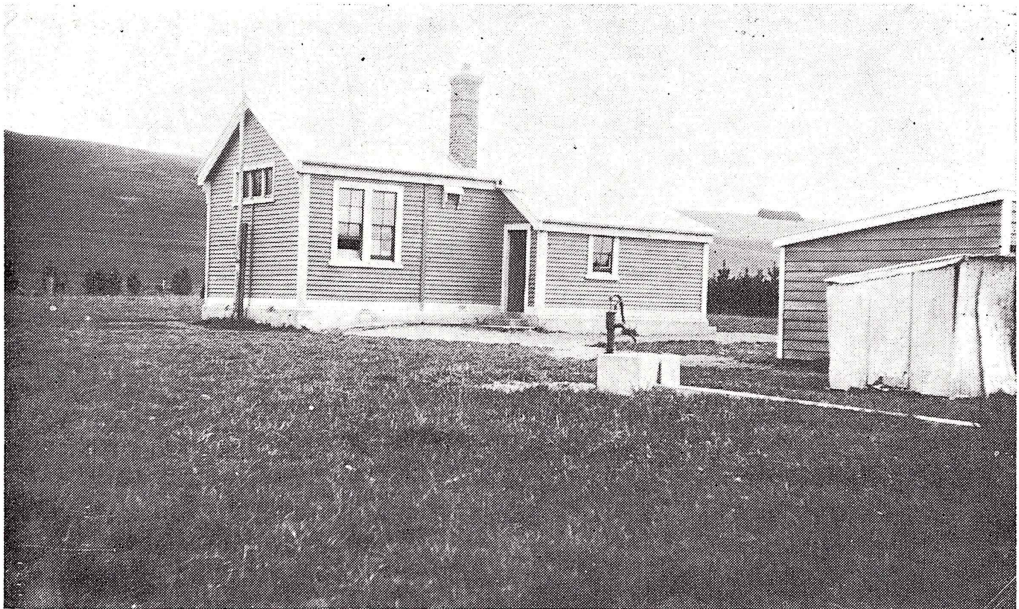
Teachers were compelled to put most emphasis on the three Rs—reading, writing and arithmetic. Form two pupils had to sit their external examinations at Horsley Down for their Proficiency Certificate. Their teachers had to train them to a high pitch, in about six subjects, to allow them any chance for a sixty per cent pass. A fifty per cent pass earned a Competency Certificate.

It was in the teacher's own interest to get as many passes for pupils as possible in order to maintain his professional status.

Proficiency pass was the qualification necessary to attend Secondary School. It remained in force until the Labour Government, under Fraser, abolished the formal examinations for a Form two pass. From then on every child who attended Form two regularly was automatically entitled to a Proficiency Certificate.



**Horsley Down**



**Horsley Down**





#### **Horsley Down Rugby 1926**

**Back Row:** Archie Brown, Frank Staunton, Raymond Davey, George Wright, Arnold Thomas, Ray Hoban, Oscar Hoban, Mervin Quinlivan.

**Sitting:** David Fisher, Leslie Dwyer, Ralph Watson, Stanley Davey, Fred Quinlivan, Tom Staunton, Verdun Quinlivan.



#### **Horsley Down School about 1926, Std. 2 to Std. 6**

**Back Row From Left:** Florence Quinlivan, Mildred Wright, Les Dwyer, Ray Davey, Frank Staunton, George Wright, Stan Davey, Ray Hoban, Arnold Thomas, Oscar Hoban, Karl Brooker, Mervyn Quinlivan.

**Centre Row From Left:** Noel Hoban, B. Thomas, Adel Thomas, Delia Staunton, Sylvia O'Connor, (———), Thelma Watson, Clare Waters, Molly Shelley.

**Front Row From Left:** Archie Brown, (———), Peter Doak, Ralph Watson, Verdon Quinlivan, Tommy Staunton, Fred Quinlivan.



# **Last Years at Horsley Down School**

Contributed by Ann Coates (nee Beggs)

Horsley Down School entered a critical year in 1923 when the site controversy reached its peak and new staff began duties.

Mr F. W. Coleman, an Auckland, very modern in his methods with all the drive needed to introduce them, had a musical repertoire ranging from Bach to "Yes, We Have No Bananas". He gave generously of his time and talent to his church as organist, and to school and district before leaving on promotion the following year.

In contrast I, a Western Southlander, used traditional methods as would be expected from one with service in Waihopai School in Invercargill, and I was no extrovert!

Senior classes were taught in the Horsley Down School two miles from Hawarden township. As this was now too small to accommodate all the pupils, the rather dingy not well lit Auctioneers' Room in the Saleyards Company building was used for the Juniors, who had a holiday every Sale Day.

Before the Sale or other events held in the adjoining hall, all school and pupil property had to be stowed away in inadequate storage space. Damage to slates was common, even if sent home for the day. Distractions were frequent on days before and after the Sale if dogs were disobedient while stock was being penned or removed. The lower school had two days holiday at Ewe Fair time.

If the outside door into the yards was left open to let in sunlight we often had visits from the fowls looking for the pickings of a horse drawn age. The yards and holding paddock acted as playground. Due largely to the enthusiasm of Messrs Fisher and Coleman, the Golf Course was laid out in the open space at this time.

After a Sale there was a scramble for empties and coins round the bar and other Saleyard's property. Claims about

the thrift of the men of that generation were belied by the amount picked up by pupils. The introduction of a Barnardo Homes Box was coldly received by these little capitalists.

One budding financier, careful to avoid being kept in, spent most of his spare time on the Golf Course. Noticing the daughter of a certain runholder never looked for lost balls, he sold them back to her at the gate.

To crown all, a mini civil war over the school site split the district roughly on a township versus country basis. An elderly farmer led the status quo group, claiming removing the school would depress land values. He fought for enlargement on the old site.

Parallel to this was a move by another older man, Mr James Bentley, to move the Presbyterian Church to Hawarden because he thought the church should be where the people were, an idea more amicably discussed.

Many meetings were held about this time to debate the school issue, ably chaired by Mr W. L. Wright a local farmer, with the staff attending as observers. These gatherings were packed, and a single man was one of those elected to the school committee. Great was the excitement when a ploughman was one of the voters.

A legal opinion stated a householder was one who slept in a dwelling with a chimney and standing on piles. At that time the Post Office was at the Railway Station, where at least one hut qualified. So the township retaliated by persuading the occupant to exercise his legal rights.

Remaining neutral when the school site was the talking point in every home and meeting place, was difficult for the staff. Mr R. M. K. Clague usually spent his weekends at his Christchurch home while he was Head Teacher.

About this time the idea of a convent school was revived, a move that would adversely affect the school roll. The controversy ended in the sensible solution of having a District High School.

Meantime the authorities objected to Sale day holiday for the Lower School so we moved to an old two roomed cottage with a small coal range, with rusty boiler at the side. This had some advantages but stood in a damp grassed lane half way to the Railway station.

Soon after we settled in, the heavens opened, the cottage stood on an island, and I had to carry children into school. This was not an isolated happening but even so, my successor, fellow Southlander

Miss Mary McDowell taught there until Hawarden Consolidated School opened.

Horsley Down School may be unique. Where else do we find small children taught a hop skip and jump from sheep pens? Those fowls feeding in the yards because Hawarden had no livery stables provided an unusual diversion.

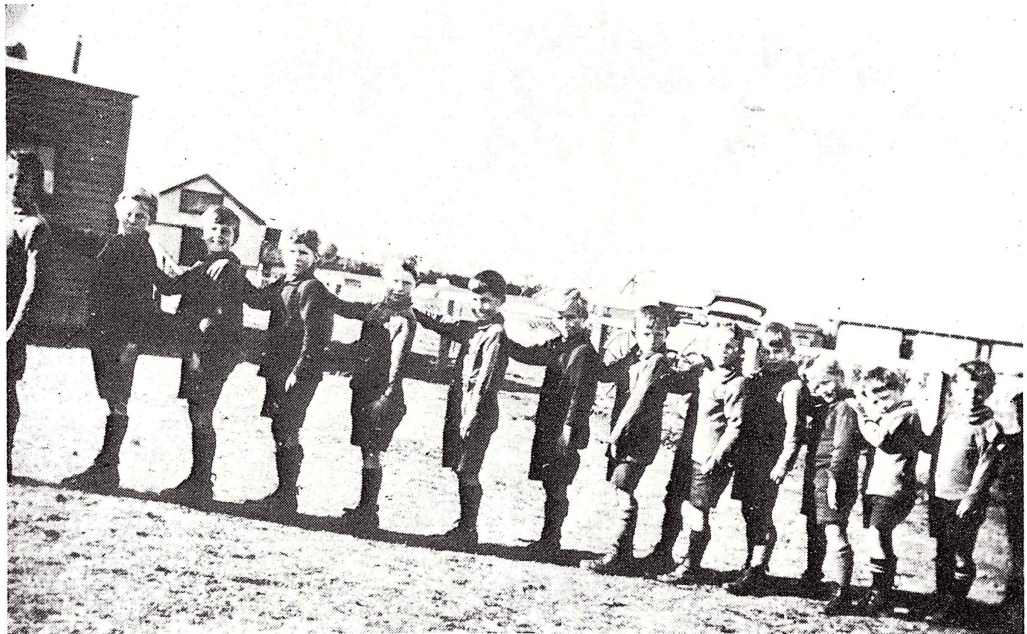
Some pupils were known to empty the dregs from the empties into the hens' trough. As the Prohibition campaign was still alive and they had heard of walking a plank as a test of sobriety, the top of the yards was a grand place to test it. An after school amusement could include watching the antics of a topheavy rooster after mixing his drinks and those of hens heading for a hangover!







**Hawarden School 1922**  
Taken outside the Ladies Room at the Hall



**Hawarden Hall—Prior to consolidation**  
Arnold Thomas, Archie Brown, George Wright, Ray Hoban, Frank Staunton, Laurie Thomas, Oscar Hoban, Stanley Davey, Mervin Quinlivan, Raymond Davey, David Fisher, Verdun Quinlivan, Fred Quinlivan, (———).  
1902 Farmers Building in background was erected.



## **Mr Clague Remembers Hawarden 1924-27**

I taught at Hawarden for three and a half years, as Head Teacher of the Horsley Down School, which served Hawarden Township and the farming area in it's vicinity. I then had the privilege of being (though in a temporary capacity) the first Head Teacher of the Hawarden Consolidated School when it was opened in 1927. The permanent staff for the new school did not take over until the first term in 1928. The teachers from the contributing schools had the task of getting the enterprise going, and supervising the pupils' transport. It was a good idea, as all the children, whatever school they came from, knew at least one teacher at the new school; and that teacher knew the pupils on the appropriate bus, and their destinations. As I was the head teacher of the largest school being absorbed, the Education Board made me temporary head teacher.

That the school got away to a good start is evident from the excellent inspection report which was quoted at the Jubilee Celebrations.

Horsley Down School was a "two-handed" one while I was there, and the children attended at two separate buildings about one and a half miles apart. Infants and Standard one were taught in a room at the Saleyards. When I first went to Hawarden, their teacher was Miss Beggs. When she married, becoming Mrs Coates, she was succeeded by Miss McDowell.

I taught Standard two to Form two in a one-room school building, which, several years before my time there, had been moved from near Horsley Down Homestead to a lonely area on the north side of the corner where the road passing Croft's farm met the road to the Washpen, Horsley Down and The Peaks. No other building could be seen from the school or playground; and I found the immediate surroundings strangely quiet after the bustle of Lyttelton. Some children came to school on horseback, some by horse and cart, and some by bicycle, though quite a number walked

two miles or more. There was a horse paddock to accommodate the children's horses; and occasionally, I judged a riding and dressage display they organised, and which they called a circus.

Running a divided school could have been very awkward in certain circumstances; but, in our case, it ran very smoothly, mainly because the lady teachers, Miss Beggs and Miss McDowell, were both very capable, reliable and efficient. We had very good reports from the Inspectors each year. All Form two pupils passed the Proficiency examination while I was at the school.

We had a five-star School Committee who helped the school in many ways. From the children's point of view, their principal function was to arrange a splendid picnic each year. I remember one being held at Amberley, one at Hurunui, one at Hagley Park (Christchurch) and one at Diamond Harbour. The five stars on the committee were W. L. Wright (Chairman), Charlie White (Secretary), Jim Croft, Jim Shelley and Oscar Miles.

During my time at the school the local School Committees and the Education Board, were arranging the "consolidation" of the schools around Hawarden. The purpose was to widen the horizon of the children in remote areas, and make the teaching more effective by enlarging the classes. Waikari remained aloof but Mason's Flat, Medbury, The Peaks, Hurunui, and Horsley Down heartily welcomed the project.

The "new" school, on the present site, was constructed by Education Board workmen who, perhaps, were unused to Hawarden's weather potentialities. As the building was taking shape—an imposing structure of hundreds of joists, studs, beams and rafters, an "old-man" nor' wester sprang up one night, and down the whole contraption crashed, setting the job back for weeks. Local carpenters, wise after the event, said the weatherboards should have been put on before the rafters, to brace the building.



The fact was that there were two Mr William Wrights in Hawarden, both prominent in local matters; but the difficulty was removed by referring to one as "W. L." and the other as "Soldier Bill".

On my arrival, the first Hawarden person I met was Bill Pierce, who did carrying in addition to farming. The school committee had asked him to collect me when I got off the train at Waikari; and he drove me by horse and cart, to the home of Mr and Mrs Earnie Crothall, with whom I boarded for over a year, being very well treated. Later, however, I moved to what was undoubtedly, the social centre of Hawarden—Mr and Mrs Ted Low's boarding house. A large book could be written about that place, with its rather rambling main block and the annexes, cabins and huts round about it.

Commercial travellers such as Paddy Forde; stock agents such as Dick Rigby; the garage proprietor, Charlie Surridge (and his wife and daughter); mechanics, tradesmen, Co-op. staff, Post Office and railway employees, council drivers, shearers, casual workers—in and out of work—all found accommodation there, as did also the many relations of the family. How Mrs Low and her staff catered so satisfactorily for so many, I don't know; but normally, except occasionally at weekends, all went smoothly.

Mrs Low's son-in-law, "Robbie" Robinson, was a good dance pianist, as, also, was Charlie Surridge, and between them they provided the music for dances and social functions for many miles around.

I had a "Trusty Triumph" motorcycle, and went home to Christchurch each weekend; so I missed many of the more exciting events at the boarding house. When I returned one Sunday evening, I found the whole yard covered in feathers. The explanation was that a shearer had asked Mrs Low for a more comfortable mattress for his bed. When she told him he had as good a mattress as anyone in

the place, he said, "I know where there is a better one." "Where?" she asked. "On your bed", he answered; whereupon he strode into the house, and into Mr and Mrs Low's bedroom, tossed off the bedclothes, and carried the mattress outside. In the ensuing tug-o-war between him and Ted and Mrs Low, the mattress burst.

Attached to her front door, Mrs Low had a fancy ornament in the form of two brass donkeys. Beneath it was inscribed "When shall we three meet again?" Beside the door she had another ornament, a small brass pig with a suitably inscribed weather forecast.

The secretary of the school committee, Charlie White, was a notable character. When I first arrived he was both Station and Postmaster in Hawarden, but when the "new" Post Office was opened, he relinquished the railways side, and was the first full time Postmaster. Though capable and versatile, he dearly loved a practical joke, and many a story could be told of the leg-pulls and tricks he indulged in. One evening he dressed himself as a woman, and came to Mrs Low's and asked for accommodation. He came into the sitting room where many of us were gathered; but no-one recognised him until, with a laugh, he kicked up his heels, and took off his hat and wig.



All communications to be addressed—  
The Secretary,  
Education Board,  
Christchurch.

P.O. Box 349

## Canterbury Education Board

OXFORD TERRACE  
CHRISTCHURCH,

10th July, 1924

### Memorandum

Mr G. Rutherford,  
236, Papanui Road,  
CHRISTCHURCH.

HORSLEY DOWN : REMOVAL OF SCHOOL to HAWARDEN.

I have to inform you that the Department has now made a special grant of £164 for the purchase of your property consisting of 4 acres 1 rood situate in Hawarden Township. The grant is arrived at as follows :—

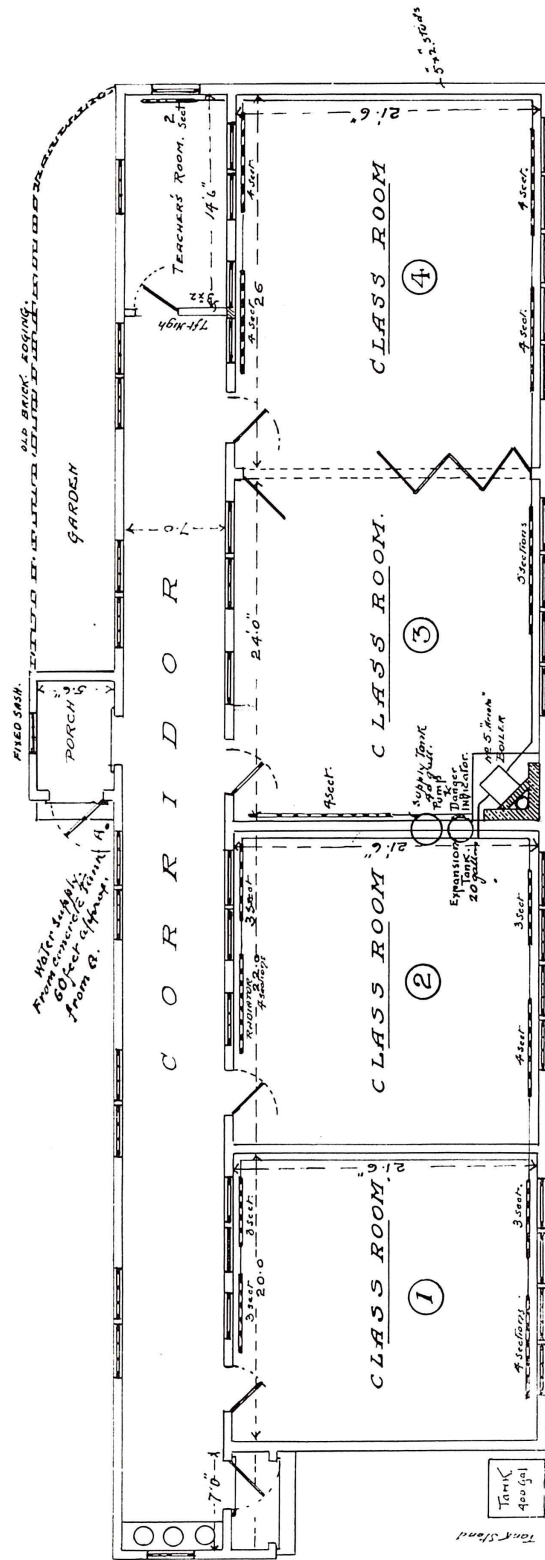
4 $\frac{1}{4}$ acres @ £80	£340
Less committee's contribution	£50
" value of present site to be taken over by you	90
" value of old site	36
Grant approved	<u>£176</u>

It is assumed that you will allow the Board to use the present site until the school is removed and it is suggested that a period of eighteen months might be fixed as a maximum.

I have to thank you for granting verbal permission for the Committee to be allowed to work on the new site for the purpose of levelling and draining it.

L. E. ROWLEY  
Asst. Secretary





Plan of First School building at Hawarden.  
N.B.: Folding wall between rooms 3 and 4.

## Consolidation

The earliest run holders including the Lances and Masons sent their children out of the district to be educated privately. In the 1870s wool prices dropped, following close behind was also the beginnings of share cropping in wheat and the establishment of the earliest schools.

The village settlement Act and the coming of the railroad in 1884 opened the district to further settlers and led to the start of Hawarden itself as a township. Finally the breaking up of the runs in 1897 made for a redistribution of population, a movement which finalised in 1927 with the consolidation of all the schools, Mason's Flat, Hurunui, The Peaks, Medbury and Horsley Down to one school, a district school, in Hawarden.

The composition of the first committee of this school is described elsewhere. "The Press" records a public luncheon with the Minister of Education who officially opened the school on Saturday, July 16th, 1927 and the member of Parliament for Hurunui, Mr G. W. Forbes being present at the opening. A local diary states 'drove to Hawarden to the opening of the school, and later to the luncheon in the Saleyards Hall'. The roll contained the names of 183 pupils—103 males and 80 females. Mr R. M. Clague was Headmaster.

The school now functioned with an extensive busing service requiring constant alteration and minor problems were frequent. Timing had to be constant and accurate with buses leaving at 3.15 p.m. therefore time for extra school activities, notably sports practice were lacking.

In 1929 we read that the Hon. Mr Forbes was assisting in efforts to obtain a Junior High School and Technical School for Hawarden.

The High School started with a roll of between 18 and 22 pupils in 1930. Among those were Dorothy Dalzell and Amuri Draper from Culverden who boarded in Hawarden before the bus served the Culverden and Waiau areas. Rita Hogden,

Joe Collins, Hugh Home and Margaret Lindsay travelled from Waikari. Others on the first roll were Jim Hewitt, Neil Craig, Thelma Watson, Bill McKeegan, Molly Shelley and Phyllis Jury.

Some of the first classes were held in the Public Hall in Hawarden. Mr Kernihan marched pupils daily from the school and down the street. If there was a function in the Hall then classes had a holiday.

Elsie Ross, Rita Hodgen and Neil Craig are recorded as being the first prefects of the District High School.

The vision of Mr O'Donoghue resulted in the erection of the new Secondary Department and the eventual re-alignment of the main primary block.

Mr Brown describes negotiating to purchase the present Headmaster's house for himself for £2,400. Later the Board purchased the property for the sum of £3,000.

Tribute must be paid to the parents and others who volunteered for "Working Bees" in the grounds, which have always had a neat appearance. With the advent of an adequate water supply from the Waitohi Scheme, most of the School's water problems were alleviated and attractive tree planting and landscaping has been possible. The school has frequently received awards for the appearance of its grounds.

A former Chairman, Mr George Mason describes the mammoth task of laying the tennis and netball courts, and the fact that he did not ever ring for the support of working bees as it was readily offered.

On 19 August, 1929, the Education Board wrote requesting the Committee to obtain a tender for removing the Horsley Down school to the School site in Hawarden. The following year "the board was asked to equip this building for woodwork and euchre evenings". It became a popular venue for meetings. In 1932 the Women's Institute paid 1/- charge per meeting to hire it.





School after consolidation—early 1928



The Board instructed the Committee to sell off the other schools. A tender of £15 was received for the Mason's Flat school house and the committee advised the Board to retain it rather than sell it for such a ridiculous price.

The outlying school buildings were never sold, although they were put up for tender, all were retained and later with minor alterations, served as public halls to be used for dances, family gatherings, card evenings and meetings.

## Secondary Education

From early records it is shown that secondary education commenced in Hawarden in the year 1930. Prior to this, there had been correspondence between the school committee, the Education Board, and the Government on its establishment, and the erection of buildings for use by the secondary pupils. In late 1929 the Education Board requested the names of prospective pupils for the High School, and in March 1930 appointed its first teacher. Various items of correspondence with transport operators on the conveyance of pupils from Waikari, and an Intermediate Certificate produced showing High School status 3/2/30.

Some anomalies existed around this time in the transport area. Waikari pupils were asked to pay £5 per year to cover the costs of travelling the four miles between there and Hawarden whilst free rail travel was offered these same pupils to commute to Rangiora and back daily.

At the beginning of 1935 the bus route was extended to uplift pupils from the Culverden, Rotherham and Waiau areas, at a cost to the committee of 19/- per week. This would have meant an early start for these pupils, as transport was not as quick as it is today, and school commenced at 8.45 a.m. during this time.

During these formative years of the Secondary school, much pressure was being applied by the school committee and residents, on the Education Board and Government, for the commencement of Manual Training at the school. This

included the construction of a block in which these subjects could be taught. After much planning and persuasion, the necessary building was completed, and was opened on the 9th or 10th of June, 1938. During this year also, it appears as though pupils from Waikari started attending the Hawarden High School as records show the grant from the Board was not sufficient to cover costs.

Evening Technical classes in the new Manual block were started in 1938, after the arrangements for these had been organised by Mr Maxwell, the Headmaster.

Members of the School Committee met with the Education Board in 1940, to discuss with them the commencing of Secondary Education in Waiau. This included the erection of a school house and school bus service to cater for the new school.

During the war years the existing facilities at Hawarden became stretched beyond capacity, and moves were initiated to obtain a new High School block. This block subsequently promised by the Education Board, and building commenced in 1945. It was not until the 9th September 1946 that the new High School block was officially opened by the then Minister of Education, the Hon. A. H. Nordmeyer. The opening was celebrated with displays of marching, woodwork, and other scholastic exhibitions. Essentially, except for slight alterations, the High School is the same as it was then, and still commands a second glance from people travelling by, and occupying as it does, a prime site with a great view over the township and surrounding countryside.

Between the opening of the new teaching block and the present day, the school has made good progress. The academic record alone is one that the school and teachers can feel justly proud of. With high pass rates in School Certificate occurring regularly, perhaps the best being recorded in 1967 with 19 passes out of 22 pupils sitting, and with other pupils achieving high recognition in their chosen fields of endeavour, the school has accomplished a great deal.





**School Staff 1942 (approx.)**

Cliff Wright, Doris Heatherton, Jim Ross,  
Eric McClatchy (Headmaster), Muriel Rolls, Duncan Brown, Marjorie Lucas.

Perhaps the worst setback in this period would have been the opening of a District High School at Culverden in 1959. This caused a drastic reduction in the number of pupils attending Hawarden and the loss of some staff and staff houses. But the resilience of those left prevailed, and the school survived and flourished, and is now to become a successful Area School.

From "The Press", 24/4/63

#### **Opening of a new School Building at Hawarden**

"District High Schools played a very important part in the Education System of New Zealand," said the Chairman of the Canterbury Education Board (Mr A. Murray), when he opened a new building at the Hawarden District High School.

Mr Murray said "many persons do not realise the importance of the District High School". He also said that the new building was an Administration block with two primary classrooms. It included a Staffroom, a sick bay, storeroom, Headmaster and clerical assistant's offices.

In addition alterations had been made to the old primary school block. It had been cut in half and turned to face the north. The large corridor which ran alongside the two old rooms was turned into two extra classrooms.

The roll of the school was then 317, 101 at the High School, and 216 at the Primary School.

Mr Murray congratulated the school "on its fine record" and said that he





**Staff late 1940s**

Mr Hinchey, Mr Gibson, Mr Green, Mr Hirst, Mr Tindale.  
Miss Rowe, Miss Batchellor, Mr Stewart (Headmaster), Miss Bell, Miss Costello.

hoped it would be as successful in future years.

About 400 persons attended the opening. Afterwards an open day was held when parents could inspect the school and talk to the teachers. Other speakers included the Chairman of the School Committee, Mr G. E. Mason; and the Vice-Chairman of the Waipara County Council; the Headmaster, Mr R. W. McVie, who read letters from the Minister of Education, Mr Tennent, and the local M.P., Mr H. L. Pickering.

### **Problems**

The complexities of the problems facing the School Committees, are revealed in a study of their minutes. Finance was a recurring headache even to the stage when the committee threatened the Education Board that they would resign if their subsidy was not increased.

Bus problems were constantly evident with the re-routing of buses necessary to suit the fluctuating school population and overcrowding of buses. The school ack-

nowledges the reliable service provided by Ecroyd, Binning, Yorstons and their drivers.

The influence of the school on the growth and development of the district is evident. Roads on the bus routes were required to be a certain standard and this sometimes meant upgrading requests to the Waipara County Council. A petition was received for building a bridge over Evans Ford. This move culminated in support from the Hon. W. Gillespie, the Parliamentary Member for Hurunui for example.

I noted a request to strengthen and widen the Waitohi Bridge in 1936 so that it could be used by the Peaks bus. A request was also made to have the footpath from the School to the Post Office and shops sealed, and for a speed limit to be imposed in the Hawarden township.

The influence of a World War was noted in 1942, with the Committee taking out a war risk insurance, and in 1943 "blackout" instructions were received. In 1945 the Headmaster's report included a description of the Peace Celebrations and a Children's Victory Service. The daily





#### **The Staff 1962**

**Back Row:** John Neal, S. Eggleston, Ron Thomas, Doug Dent.

**Centre Row:** Barry Seymour, Max Harper, Bob McVie (Headmaster), John Green, Ian Black.

**Front Row:** Marie Abbot, Daisy Harper, Gloria Hibbard, Margaret Milne, Alison Taggart, Vivienne Ecroyd, Janis Tremewan.

singing of "There'll always be an England" was compulsory in schools.

Until the opening of the Waitohi Water Scheme, water was always a problem. Diviners were engaged to site the ideal well with an adequate, permanent supply. The quality of the water was always suspect and the swimming baths were forced to close for a number of years because of water problems.

The raising of funds for a Gymnasium or Assembly Hall was recognised soon after the schools were consolidated in 1927. Money was periodically raised and set aside by the P.T.A., and the School Committee even to the stage of a district canvass.

In 1975 it was recommended that the project be postponed because a Gymnasium would be supplied with the up

graded Area School and the money was placed in a Trust Fund.

#### **Religious Instruction**

There was quite a bit of controversy around 1934 before Religious Instruction in schools was accepted as part of the school programme.

The school appreciates the work of the volunteers who have provided this religious education over the years. Mrs Val. Hassall has been eminent in this field.

#### **School Uniform**

The School Committee is responsible for the School Uniform. On the 3rd May, 1928, Mr Warwick moved that "there should be a uniform for the school and that the colours should be blue and red.



The dress for the girls to be navy bloomers (why were they mentioned first?), gymnasium costume, tie and hat of school colours. The boys were to wear college grey suit, cap, tie, and stockings of school colours. The uniform to be optional."

Efforts were made by Misses Robertson and Dent to simplify the uniform. Minor changes were made through the years and the present uniform of McPherson tartan skirt with blue blouse and navy jersey was adopted. A sports uniform with wrap around skirt and white shirt for the girls was introduced and grey walk shorts and shirt, and a royal blue blazer were also included in the change.

## 1977 School Roll

Primary: J1, 17; J2, 19; Std 1, 22; Std 2, 25; Std 3, 17; Std 4, 26; Form 1, 23; Form 2, 19.

High School: 137.

## Conclusion

The education of the country child was designed to take him as far as the old proficiency certificate. Parents who could afford to send their children to city boarding school then did so.

In 1943 the school leaving age was raised to 15, when the small District High schools attached to Primary schools were enlarged to cope with increased numbers. In 1954 an article in "The Press" gives



**Standard 1 and 2 1932, with Mrs Brooker**

L. Bunting, N. Bamford, F. Guthry, S. McFarlane, R. Pearce, K. Mahon, P. Marl, C. Foster, G. Pilcher, N. Hewett, K. Costello.  
 L. Baker, D. Hoban, H. Heasley, A. Toshach, H. Ginders, J. Wright, A. Earl, K. Elliott, H. Ginders, G. Bunting, L. Quinlivan, R. Wright.  
 H. Waterland, Ruth Gray, W. Stewart, S. Hoban, G. Weir, J. Stratton, M. Costello, J. Kennedy, L. B. Watson, G. Waterland.  
 Colleen Quinlivan, E. Forrester, J. Brooker, L. Foster, Z. Mahon, K. Pearce, B. Stubberfield, Bruce Barney.



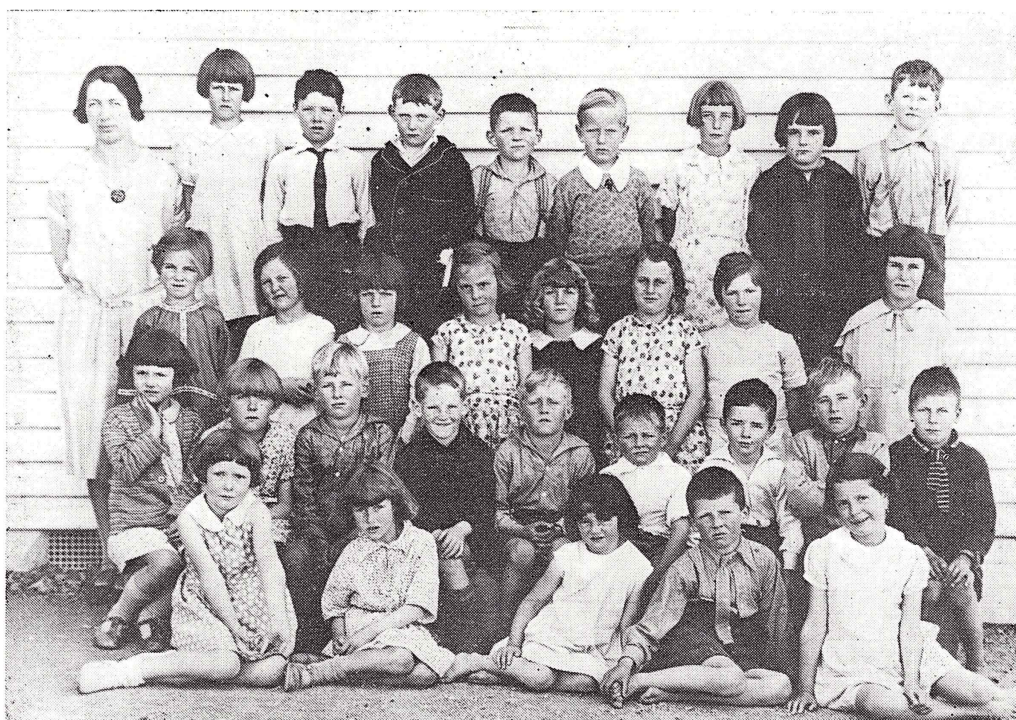
the average length of secondary schooling to be two years slightly less for the country child.

The aim of the education system in New Zealand is to provide "equal opportunities for all children". The Hawarden District High School has had remarkable results in the exceedingly high number of passes in School Certificate over the years and the Honours Board in the High School Library bears ample testimony to the scholastic achievements of those who

have passed through the school and later obtained University Degrees.

The Staff has been extremely stable, and the High School has been one of the few country schools to have been fully staffed with well qualified graduate teachers over a long period of years.

The school has always been favoured by truly wonderful support of parents expressed through a co-operative of hard working School Committee and Parent Teacher Association members.



#### **Hawarden Early 1930's**

Miss Sanson (Teacher), Clare Lewis, David Forrester, Jack Stubberfield, Bill Plasted, Des Warwick, Betty Webb, Eileen Trumper, Allan Stewart.

Joyce Wattie, Rosemary Fahey, Melva Brooker, June Reese, Jean Doak, Peggy Reese, Jean Forrester, Freda Pilcher.

Betty Forrester, Dianna Power, Tony Pilcher, Allan Burt, Allan Inch, Keith Baker, Murray Wilson, Brian Hoban, Allan Elliott.

Helen Earl, Tresia Bamford, Colleen Waterland, Allen Forrester, Mae Forrester.





**1937 In front of "Old" High School Building—(Tin Shed)**

**Back Row:** S. Dunbar, W. O'Carroll, W. Quinlivan, H. Earl, H. Waterland, A. Toschach, G. Pilcher.  
**Third Row:** C. Wright, C. Emanuel, W. C. Wright, P. D. Dunbar, F. Guthrie, A. Draper, M. Welsh, A. Lewis, L. Shelley, G. Brice, J. Warwick.

**Second Row:** B. Inch, J. Wattie, J. Wright, P. Grimwood, B. Stubberfield, B. Baker, B. Croft, E. Ellery, S. Iverach, I. Arres, M. Allan.

**Front Row:** M. Clive, J. Dalzell, L. Watson, G. Forsey, Miss Ballinger, C. Elliot, S. Hoban, M. Mills, C. Sterritt, D. Pierce.



**Primers 1946-47**





#### Standard 3 and 4, 1956

**Back Row:** Hamish Harnell, Michael Bamford, Rex Gimblett, Gavin Morrison, David Sidey, Lawrence Power, Warren Mason, Michael Multhus, John Williamson.

**Third Row:** Donald Alistar, Sally Mander, Carol Henry, Helen Forrester, Diane Pawsey, Gail Quigley, Mary Green, Clem Small, Neil Collis.

**Second Row:** (———), Mike Newton, Perry May, Gary Brooker, Murray Lemon, Richard Mason, Peter Dunne, David Threlkeld, Roger Toschach, John Fincham, Robert Ferguson.

**Front Row:** Pauline Foote, Natalie Holder, Dianne Green, Daphne Holden, Sandra Shaw, Jan Green, Joy Small, Grace Milne, Anne Sloane, Pam Cleale, Gillian Williamson, Maureen Lemon.

## School Committees

School Committees are the tap roots of our education system. The Hawarden District High School committee work under the general direction of the Canterbury Education Board.

Farmers, housewives, shopkeepers and professional men have all played their part and given their time promoting the welfare of their local school without expectation of monetary reward.

Meetings of householders to elect the school committees are held every two years on a date fixed by the Board. The committee has the responsibility for the management of the school. The efficient running of this school reflects the high degree of co-operation between members of the school committee, the head teachers and the staff.

One of the difficulties facing the committee was retaining the services of the attractive single women teachers. Marriage to local farmers enticed them from their profession. In later years these married women provided a welcome pool of available "relieving teachers" and the backbone of the Parent Teacher Associations.

### Fund Raising Activities

The funds to finance the committee's responsibilities are received from grants, subsidies, and local money raising ventures. A dance at the school in 1927, and a concert party in aid of school funds, in 1928 were typical of this sort of local entertainment. The front seats cost 2/6d. and the back seats 2/- with children 1/-.

All concerts or fancy dress parties finished with a dance. In this case the charge was 1/-. The proceeds of a dance at "Woodgrove" were 24/- on one occasion.

The music was supplied by local talent with Mrs Stewart Ginders and the Brookers and McKays and Jimmy Feak often playing without payment.

Infant Rooms 3 and 4 at the school had a sliding door between them which was drawn to provide room for a

dance or euchre tournaments. The Home Science Room was used for P.T.A. meetings and card evenings later.

School concerts were always popular but depended on the personnel of the staff. Some headmasters were keen to promote them possibly because this provided an opportunity to meet the parents.

In a 1932 committee meeting I note, the entry "school concert. Order 60 dozen cakes and hire 10 dozen crockery plus 1 bottle of whisky and 2 gallons of beer."

The proceeds of a football match and dance in 1928 was £15-14-6. A Mason's Flat Social yielded £2-4-6. The district was often canvassed for money for school prizes and the picnic fund. We read that in 1929 a Hare drive was stationed at The Peaks school where a light luncheon was provided. The proceeds of £3-6-11 went towards buying library books. This amount would scarcely buy one book today.

In 1930 the popular weekly euchre parties were started. Each district held card evenings and players exchanged visits with the different areas. There was much friendly rivalry and always a keg of beer on hand. On one such occasion a bag of sugar was raffled. These functions kept each district's identity.

The first Rodeo in the Hurunui Domain was held in 1954. Frank Forrester and Gwyn Lawrence supplied the cattle, George Mason donated £1-0-0 for prize money for races, and Les Dwyer donated 2 boxes of chocolates, Bob Manning was organiser-starter for the events. "Robbie" Holder won the children's handicapped bike race around the race-course track.

### Gymkhana

One method that has been used to raise money for the school is the gymkhana. It was in 1938 that an approach was made to Miss Little for help in organising and running the venture. The intention was to run it to raise money for the swimming baths which at this stage had not been paid for, although completed.



However although discussed at school committee meetings, the gymkhana was not proceeded with at this stage and the idea was dropped.

In 1945 the possibility of holding a gymkhana was once again raised and an inspection of three paddocks was undertaken to look for suitable sites. A paddock of Mr Les Philpott's on the Hawarden-Waikari Road was chosen and the gymkhana first was held in January 1946 from then becoming an annual event.

It was held at this site for many years, until being shifted from there into the Hawarden Memorial Park after Mr Philpott sold his farm.

During these years the gymkhana raised a considerable amount of money, that was used for obtaining and replacing sports requirements for the school. From time to time the current Headmaster would write a paragraph in the programme, explaining the purpose to which the funds would be used, in that year.

In 1960 the school committee presented a cup for most points in the gymkhana, the first winner being Wayne Manning.

During the 1960s waning interest nearly caused cessation of the event, but with the introduction of some novelty events, interest was revived and the gymkhana returning to its former style is still an annual event. The school however does not run the day now, having ceased its support in 1971. It is now organised by the Horse and Pony Gymkhana Committee, and the profits are donated to Amuri St. John Ambulance Association.

The Pony Club support helped to ensure the success of these events, which were notable for the friendly family rivalry, especially in the family race. A dozen beer was presented to the oldest competitor. The late Hugh Gorrie took this prize home for a number of years. "Stumpy" Bethell, Jack Denham, Dick Kellock, Bob Manning, Peg Newton, Kath Quigley, Monica Rutherford, Keith Costello and John O'Carroll have all worked enthusiastically to ensure the success of the gymkhana over the years.

## School Subscriptions

In 1957 a circular and voting paper were distributed to householders seeking support for the levying of a School subscription of £1-0-0 per family per year or 7/- per term. In 1961 it was noted that 70 per cent of families subscribed and the need for fund raising functions diminished. In 1968 however, the Quigleys and Alan Stewart organised the first traction engine display. This was enthusiastically supported and over \$400 was made.

In 1969 school subscriptions were raised to \$3 per family.

Fund raising activities promoted community interest and togetherness. The population was more stable than it is today with the old established families carrying on the tradition of community involvement and service.

Tribute must be paid to the members of the first "Hawarden School District Committee." A meeting of Householders was held in the Hawarden School on 9th September, 1927, for the purpose of electing this committee. "The following nominations were received: Mr W. L. Wright, O. Miles, J. W. Warwick, W. Hewitt, E. W. Johnston, H. H. Brooker and J. K. Forrester. There being no further nominations the above were elected to the committee. Mr Wright was elected chairman"—(from minutes of H.D.H.S. 9/9/27). Mr J. W. Warwick was elected Secretary. There was a member from each of the contributing schools.

In 1929 the minutes of the Householders meeting says "the gentlemen were re-elected."

Mr W. L. Wright, who had chaired the Hawarden school committee since 1927, gave a total of thirty years service as chairman of the schools—an outstanding record, Mr J. W. Warwick was secretary for 13 years and Mr W. Hewitt was the longest serving member attending consistently for thirty years.

Mrs Mona Grimwood was the first woman member elected to the school committee in 1944. She was secretary for

three years. The present secretary, Mrs Gloria Hibbard, took over the books in 1963 and still continues her knowledgeable contribution to school affairs.

Date	Chairman
9/9/27	—W. L. Wright
20/4/53	—J. W. Hewitt
1/8/55	—S. Philpott
6/2/56	—G. E. Mason
6/5/65	—J. L. Wright
1/6/67	—J. J. O'Carroll
5/5/69	—Mr Gilmore
7/6/70	—J. A. Stewart
3/5/73	—G. Philpott
1974	—D. Costello
1977	—W. Wilson

Date	Secretary
9/9/27	—J. W. Warwick
23/4/40	—Mr J. Fletcher
2/7/45	—Mrs M. Grimwood
26/4/48	—E. W. Clarkson
20/4/53	—O. G. Evans
12/8/55	—S. Philpott (resigned)
3/10/55	—M. E. Grimwood (Acting)
5/12/55	—D. W. C. McCormick
12/12/60	—Mrs M. Whalley
6/5/63	—Mrs G. Hibbard

### School Picnics

These were the high spot of the school year. Train trips through the tunnel to Lyttelton and from there by launch to Corsair Bay or Diamond Harbour were popular with parents and children. On one such occasion a Hawarden pupil got amongst the Culverden pupils, who were sharing the same train, going on their launch for the day across Lyttelton Harbour.

The district was sometimes canvassed for money for the prize and picnic fund. For example, for a picnic in 1930, 20 dozen cakes, 2,500 sandwiches, 300 buns and 200 paper bags were ordered. Finance was short in 1931 and the picnic was held in the Waitohi Peaks Reserve. For a picnic at Earls Bridge in 1933 the School Committee ordered 3 cases of bananas and 10 gallons of soft drinks. The latter were dispensed from kegs and were a luxury. Leithfield Beach was a common place for picnics.

With transport improved and with each household owning at least one family car, the importance of the corporate outing, the school picnic has minimised.

Pupils now participate in organised school trips as far afield as the North Island, West Coast, Nelson and even Australia.

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## Parent Teacher Association

The proposal to form a Teachers' and Parents' Association was first noted and discussed at a Householders meeting in April 1940. Mrs M. E. Grimwood was the mover.

Though the exact date of formation of the P.T.A. is not known, it was functioning as an organisation in early 1944. It was at this time, that the then school committee purchased a tea set, which was subsequently raffled by the P.T.A., to inaugurate a special sports fund for the school, to use as a source of revenue to enable school sports teams to have travel assistance. This scheme existed until 1956 when it was decided that transport

subsidising was getting too expensive and a maximum of £20 per year was then placed on this scheme.

By doing this the School Committee was relieved of a lot of fund raising activities, but still called on the P.T.A. at various times, to help with money raising, by running various activities for School Committee revenue. These included dances and card evenings. Normally these efforts had a particular objective in mind for the purchase of an item, such as piano, radiogram, film projector, motormower and subsidised banda copier, to name a few.



In larger decisions in the running of the school, the P.T.A. has been able to assist the school committee by giving them a wider view of public opinion on various matters. One occasion was the rather contentious school uniform issue around 1954.

In 1960 the P.T.A. received an anonymous donation of £25 to be set aside for the erection of a badly needed assembly hall. This was perhaps its largest project

to date, with the emphasis changing from assembly hall to a gymnasium in the mid-1970s. However with the reorganisation of the school to an Area School, the project was shelved, as this facility will in time be provided by the Department of Education. A separate gymnasium committee was formed; the money held being invested, and could be used to aid a larger building, kitchen facilities or for some other school asset at a later date.

## Sports Teams

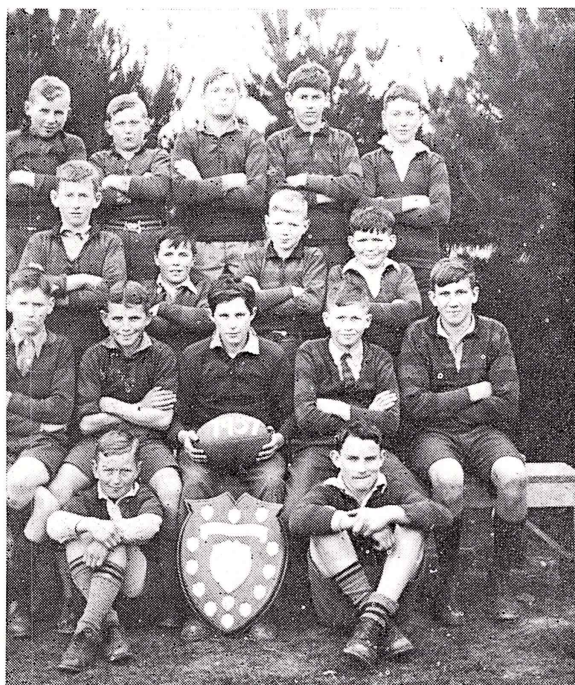


### The first Basketball team 1930

**Back:** Phyllis Jury, Dorothy Dalzell, Amuri Draper, Molly O'Connor, Reta Hodgen (obscured).

**Front:** Margaret Lindsay, Elsie Ross, Molly Shelley, Thelma Watson.

The first basketball team comprised all the girls on the roll. This photograph was taken at Sumner, the venue of their first game. Earlier in the day they had met at The Farmers in Christchurch, and were outfitted in their uniforms of navy gymfrock, red and blue striped tie, beret in quarters of red and blue, with a white blouse. They also had white Panama hats for travel.



**1937 Hampson Shield Winners**



**North Canterbury District High Schools' Association Shield for Basketball 1944**

No longer competed for, this is still held by Hawarden

(———), Mary McNeur, Dorothy McNeur, Merle Flintoft.

(———) Edna Brooker, Helen Earl, (———), Jean Doak, Joyce Hewett, Eva Inch.





**Inter-High School Shield for Tennis and  
Swimming 1953**

V. Forster, D. Dalzell, W. Tindale,  
H. Nicol, A. Maxwell, J. Preston,  
P. Currie.



**1945 Boys Athletic Team Rugby Park 1945**

Peter Denton, Hughbert Flintoft, Russell Hassall, Ivan Wright, Lloyd Brooker, Kevin Crean,  
Des Draper, Keith Milne.  
Donald Boot, Graham Ecroyd, Jack Power, Owen Brooker, James Trounce, Francis Crean,  
Alan Harris.



## On The Buses

Buses form the life-line of the school. Without an efficient service the school could not function. From the beginning of the Hawarden Consolidated school, transport had to be provided to bring pupils from the contributing area of the Horsley Down, Mason's Flat, The Peaks, Hurunui, Medbury, and later Balmoral, then Waiau, Waikari and last of all Waipara in 1956.

There have always been problems, particularly in establishing bus routes to service the majority of the passengers best, and much of the school committee's business has been handling of requests, petitions and complaints about the buses. The problems have been only minor in the fifty years. The fact that there have been only two accidents and one of these a minor one, is evidence of the calibre of the drivers and contractors responsible.

Gilbert Ecroyd of Hawarden held the first Conveyance Contract with Canterbury Education Board, serving The Peaks, Medbury, Mason's Flat and Hurunui-Culverden routes for the sum of £1,275 per annum. The contract permitted him to carry and deliver goods and mails en route, so the school bus provided a valuable service to isolated areas when roads were poor (no bitumen) and not everyone owned a car or could afford to run one.

Stopping places for picking up and setting down pupils were fixed by mutual agreement with the contractor and the school committee. As the school rolls altered, so the routes were re-arranged.

For many of the bus children, the journey to and from school has been a long and tiring one. Some even had to walk or bike quite long distances before they arrived at the bus stop. In a copy of "Haordine" 1958 we read that the "Cruisemaster" leaves Waiau at 7.45 a.m. and arrives in Hawarden at 8.45 a.m. carrying 45 pupils. There is little difference for pupils on the extended routes today, leaving on the Lake Sumner and Virginia roads before 8 a.m. as they do.

A study of the 1935 balance sheet of Ecroyd's Garage and Transport Company shows a profit of £532-5s-2d. The petrol account for the year was £227-1s-9d and drivers' wages £192-18s-7d.

The Model A Ford school bus cost the Company £205-10s-2d. The Company was running six buses at this time, the latest purchase being a Bedford which cost £467-18s-0d. Today in 1977, the account for the registration of a single bus is \$57.50 and the daily mileage is 360 miles.

In 1951 the roll of the District High School was 257 pupils, and of these 203 travelled by bus.

In 1978 there are five buses (one run by the Education Board), carrying 55, 69, 68, 31 and 27—a total of 250 children. The school roll is 305.

How the buses have changed as the photographs show! Do you remember the "meat van" with its canvas sides and long wooden seats the length of the bus? You slid forward with each disembarking passenger.

There was the "monkey bus", the "Clipper", the "Comet", the "Cruise-master" and "Cruisercoach".

Overloading has always been a hazard. A request in 1948 was for a bus capable of carrying 70 children, and the drivers had the constant responsibility for the behaviour and safety of the children. The 1941 Education Board Contract has a special clause requiring the contractor to provide a mirror or mirrors so placed that the driver can observe the interior of the bus.

What a colourful scene must flash across these mirrors—children chatting, sleeping, playing cards, reading and knitting, the occasional quarrel (hats and bags thrown out the windows) and of course the trail of paper, apple cores, orange peelings and crusts followed the bus-route home. For the litter conscious there is a "No eating on the buses" rule today. The birds miss out on their easy food source now.



## Buses



No. 1 Bus at Horsley Down Corner



The "Comet" at the Hurunui Bridge—1953



Travel in 1977

If only the buses could talk. The stories some of them could tell. Here's one that is worth including. Roly Manning was the driver of The Peaks bus at the time, and would turn a blind eye to most antics, but not to fighting. After a fight had broken out on this particular night, he stopped the bus, made his way down the aisle, to where the disturbance was occurring and told the offenders that while he had nothing against having a good fight, he also made it clear that it was not to happen on the bus. If anybody wanted to settle an argument with fists, he would stop the bus while the action took place outside on the side of the road.

It transpires that the following night a fight was brewing, and Jack comes down and taps Roly on the shoulder, explaining that someone wants a fight. Roly duly stops the bus and out gets the 2 offenders. With a toot and a wave Roly proceeds to drive off leaving the two frantically running in an effort to catch up.

Did the fight ever take place Colin Inch?

It is understood that subsequently nobody fought on Roly's bus.

The buses bring a nostalgia all of their own that only the people travelling in them can tell. There was friendly rivalry between buses and family feeling of comradeship and caring with "big kids" looking after the "littlies", sharing of food and sweets and the odd adventure. The only major accident in 50 years occurred on May 10th, 1937.

Fortunately only seven children were on the Mason's Flat bus as it neared the end of its run, but three of them were admitted to Waikari Hospital together with the driver, all unconscious and suffering from head injuries. They were, driver Alec Millar, Betty Trumper, Nola Lukey and Russell Lukey. The other children, Joan, Bill and Freeman Booker, and Lily Watson were slightly injured but able to go home after treatment in Hawarden.

The accident occurred on a slight hill leading to a bridge alongside the property of Mr W. T. Earl. The bus got out of control on the hill and after leaving the road at the bridge, it ran down a bank and brought up against a willow tree. Lily Watson tried to assist the driver and avoid the accident and was commended for her courage and quick thinking.

Buses have always been available for sports and study trips. Kaikoura, Oxford, Cheviot, Geraldine, Culverden (Amuri Area School), West Coast, Nelson, Queenstown and Rangiora being just some of the areas visited.

Right to the present day the bus service has been of a high standard, with some of the Yorston buses being tourist class.

Praise and thanks must be accorded to the drivers. Names recalled include Miss Muriel Rolls, Mrs Brooker, Roly Manning, Vic Hicks, Malcolm Andrew, Doug Binning, Cam Quigley, Des Withell, Ron Dixon, Jack Hirst, Lester Hardy, John Forster, Graham, Keith and their father Dave Yorston. Dave has driven mainly on The Peaks run, without a single accident for 32 years, and is still doing a run to Waikari.

Ray Hinchey is another well loved driver. He drove the Balmoral bus for one year, and Waiau bus for eight years, but

I'll leave Ray to tell his story in his own way:—

### **The Balmoral School Bus**

Friday, a July day in 1945 (was it the 13th?) began with a cool crispness. By the time of our arrival at school, the norwester had begun. It increased in ferocity as the day wore on, until at 3 p.m. it appeared doubtful that any bus would leave for home.

The Balmoral run through Medbury wasn't all that long, but it would take us into the gale and through the Balmoral Forest where we hoped to get some protection. Better to try to get home than not try at all.

We were sent off by an anxious head (Mr O'Donohue), and made it to the Hurunui Bridge with as many pupils as could be seated on the up-wind side of the bus. (Remember that bus! Ex army truck, removable canopy with slide curtains, lateral seats secured by wing nuts to the floor, smelling of disinfectant after doing duty as a sheep truck during the day, courtesy of Ecroyd's Transport).

Stones blown off the road pinged against the side of the bus, but we made it to the bridge and turned into the forest road. Fairly good progress into the gale, with about seven pupils left, Judy Davidson (are you listening) made me think that we would make it. As we approached the Balmoral rail siding, a huge gust took the bus across the road to the rabbit fence, rocking against the wires, while pebbles rattled on the windscreen. A second gust followed, and we were frightened badly this time. A huge area of forest was instantly flattened as if smoothed down by an invisible hand. Now we were really exposed. During the lull I inched the bus up to the end of the forest, only to be hacked by a fearful blast which screwed the bus sideways into the fence. More forest went down, and with it our hopes of getting home at all. Everything about the bus was roaring, shaking and flapping and there we stayed until, unbelievably, at 6 p.m., the gale ceased. Peace at last.

On we went to Murgatroyd's corner. From there down the Long Plantation Road, the mighty avenues of pine trees



had been blown down across the road, but farmers had axed the tops of them and I got home to "Callura" in time for a late dinner.

That night I joined the Dwyer and Draper boys to go to a Young Farmers' film in the Culverden Hall. Promptly at 8 p.m. the rain came with such a voco on the roof that we could not hear the movie. This lasted all through the programme, and we emerged shortly after 10 p.m. to find a frosty star-lit night—and home to "Callura".

We woke up on Saturday morning to a white silent landscape under two feet of snow, and three weeks of no school! Ah, wilderness! and I am nostalgic for the big freeze up that followed. Yet that too would make a good second Chapter.

—J.R.H.

### Socials and the Waiau Bus

Those socials at the end of the term. Remembrance of them warms my heart. Leave it to the students to arrange—Lloyd or Jim Brooker—and you would be certain of an hilarious time. As all of us lived too far away to return that night, we were billeted out for a meal. Generally I accepted the offer of someone nearby—Duncan Brown, Bill Stewart, Ben Tindale or some other pre-adamite.

Then spruced up we made for the old Hawarden Hall. The vigour put into decorations became clear the moment we entered. The floor was powdered and polished by dragging a full chaff sack all over it. Streamers and balloons were everywhere to try to cover up the ugliness of the old Hall. Ladies, a plate please! What superb country-style cooking came in under wraps, carried by gleaming young people transformed by their party dresses. The boys, above Form IV or five feet (which ever came first) in longs and squeaky shoes. Hugh Boyd, hair slicked and parted, David Boyd—no hope of a parting!

Promptly at 7.30 p.m. the first dance begins, that one where the great circle is formed round the hall and everyone waltzes with ever-changing partners. Great for getting to know you fast. The

dances that followed were overlong and I get exhausted. I wish to get to the sidelines. At last the music stops, but help! What's this? Musical Chairs. I am dragged on the floor by that cheeky Waikari girl in Home Life and before long I am screaming along with her. I find her great fun. And so it goes. Dances and games alternating until, for surviving, it is necessary to eat and drink and sit a while. The revolving goes on to 10 p.m. Scandalous to ask for more. Buses can be an hour later next morning. Cheers!

But it really does end at 11 p.m. Into the bus for home. Is anyone sleepy? Watch out, the late bus show is about to begin. On through the night I drive, rabbits scuttle across the road, occasional deer stare into the headlights as we go through the forest, but the singing in the dark bus affects me more. Norma Morgan, in a sweet soprano, is singing a war-time song. Everyone listens for the next country mile along the dark country road. But the spell breaks! A piercing collaratura takes off in a grotesque imitation of an opera star. Roars of laughter all the way to silent Culverden. Barbara Diehl, you would have made an excellent Auntie Barbra Streisand.

Jim McLean sits by me on the last leg. We talk of shooting, fishing, anything, and I toy with the idea of letting him drive to Rotherham, so that I can roll a smoke. I think better of it. (He had to wait until his last day at school to get behind the school bus wheel). And so into Waiau. Completely fagged I run the township pupils home, but Jim—that iron man—picks up his cycle to ride six more miles. Ah! Everything was larger than life in the roaring forties and furious fifties!

—J. R. Hinchey

By the way Mr Hinchey, did you ever know the right culprit who carefully ate out the loaf of bread, delivered to you at the pump house on Tenterden Street, and filled it with stones? Fancy feeding the wrong pupil on onion sandwiches!

## **Dental Clinic**

The first confirmation that a dental clinic was to be established at the Hawarden School, was in September 1931, when a letter was received from the Director of School Dental Clinics. He advised the school committee that a nurse would be made available for a clinic in Hawarden. This offer was accepted by the committee, and it was decided that a deputation would wait on the Plunket Society, with a view to using their rooms as a clinic.

Once the decision to build a clinic had been made, the inevitable problem of raising the necessary finance to complete the project was uppermost in the thoughts of the committee. It was therefore decided to run a "Queen Carnival" to accomplish this. There were four Queens representing Hawarden, The Peaks, Mason's Flat and Medbury-Hurunui, and the various committees commenced their efforts in late 1931. The culmination of the carnival was in September 1932 and the following report was printed in the Christchurch "Press" (September 27, 1932):

"There was a good attendance in the Hawarden Hall when the Crowning Ceremony in connexion with the Queen Carnival, which has been conducted to raise funds for a dental Clinic took place.

"The 'Queen' was Miss Ruth Heasley (The Peaks) and her train-bearers were Misses Betty Baker and Ruth Gray. The Princesses and their train-bearers were: Mason's Flat, Miss Lily Waterland and Misses Helen Earl and Thelma Foster; Medbury-Hurunui, Miss Grace Dalzell and Misses Betty Forrester and Joan Brooker; Hawarden, Miss Vera Quinlivan and Misses Jean Doak and Rosemary Fahey.

"Miss Dorothy Wood acted as the Mistress of the Robes, with Miss Kathleen Pierce as trainbearer. Misses Monica McKay and Joyce Suridge acted as Heralds. Crown Bearer — Miss Joyce Wright.

"Mr James Heasley, on behalf of the Clinic Committee, presented each of the four candidates with a silver cup.

"Mr E. W. Johnson, acting as 'Archbishop of Woodgrove' performed the ceremony, and the Chairman of the School Committee acted as Lord High Chancellor. Among local residents who assisted the School Staff and Committee in the arrangements and training were Mrs J. Quigley, in her capacity as 'Wardrobe Mistress', Miss Sidey, who assisted in the training and made all the floral effects, and Mr C. L. Suridge who supplied the music for the Preliminary practises and for the ceremony. After the withdrawal of the 'Royal Court' a 'Mock Court' was held. A dance was held to music supplied by Suridge's Orchestra. Supper was supplied by the School Committee."

Early in 1933 the School Committee received from the Education Board the Quotation for erection of the Dental Clinic of £150. The committee thought that this price was excessive and wrote to the Board advising them of this. It is not clear whether this price was accepted or not, but the clinic was ready for use in the middle of that year. Tenders were called for cleaning of the building and the first person to do the job was Mrs Pierce who had tendered the lowest price.

Gradually over the next few years pupils, other than from Hawarden, were accepted for treatment at the Clinic. Culverden, Waikari, and then in 1940 Motonau School Children came regularly to Hawarden to have their teeth cared for.

The School Committee was responsible for the running costs of the Clinic, and to aid this, collected a levy from each child outside the Hawarden Area, for the committee felt they should help also. Unfortunately this collection did not appear to be as successful as it should have been, and more often than not large deficits were still incurred in the public account, though it must be noted that the headmaster of Waikari School, Mr George Soal, never let his children come without paying, and collecting this money himself. Finally in 1947 the committee, after

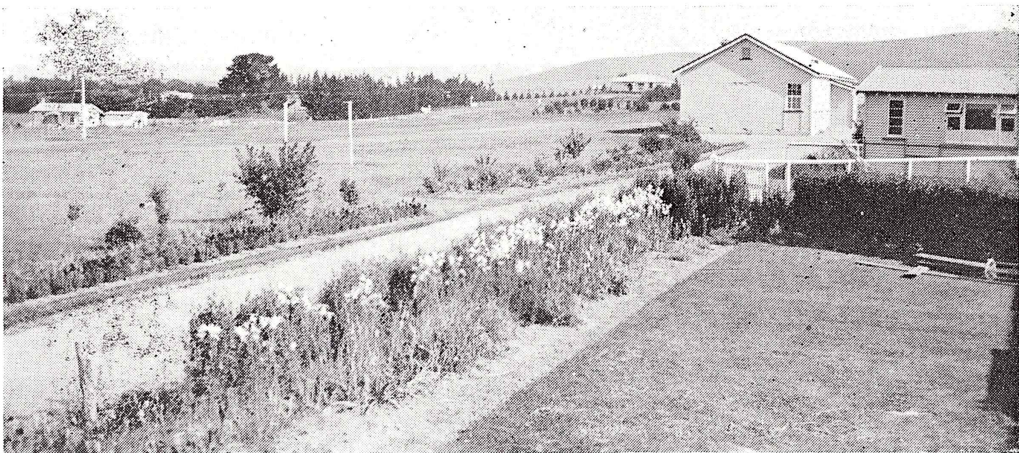


unsuccessful attempts to have other schools contribute to the expenses, told the Education Board that it must make up the deficit or it would cease to administer the Dental Clinic's affairs.

Since then of course the Health Department has taken over responsibility for the School Dental Clinic's administration and the School Committee role has been reduced.

Today a new era has arrived in the dental health of children. Once where

one nurse was hard pressed to treat the numbers she had at school, today she can be finished in a matter of weeks. This is mainly due to the introduction of fluoride, both in tablet form and in topical application into the treatment system, therefore reducing dental decay to a mere fraction of what it once was. This has been achieved at a time when the number of children being treated was increased till now it includes those pupils from Form 2 down to the pre-schoolers of two and a half years of age.



**The Main Entrance drive from the School House 1936**

## School Baths

Perhaps one of the largest projects undertaken by the school, and the residents of the Hawarden area, was the planning and completion of the Swimming Baths. Throughout its history, from 1928 until today, many problems have been encountered, and through dogged determination have been overcome, so today the school can be justly proud of this truly great asset.

It was in 1928 when an inspection was made of Mr Johnston's property to ascertain whether there was sufficient water primarily for school purposes, but also with the view to a sufficient flow to enable the baths to be filled and maintained. A year later, doubt was expressed as to whether the Saleyards Creek had sufficient flow for this purpose, but the opinions of old residents were sought to obtain more information. The same year the Saleyards Company were approached asking them for land in which to site the proposed new Swimming Baths, and a septic tank which would be used for toilets at the school as well as the baths.

It was not until 1934 that a public meeting was called to discuss the proposed swimming Baths and then on the 3rd December of that same year a motion was passed that erection be proceeded with. Water supply was to come from a concrete lined well which was sunk in 1935. Also at this time it was decided that the district be canvassed for donations to finance the venture. A raffle was organised with a £5 trophy to the winner.

Mr J. H. Wright was appointed foreman of works for the excavating and building of the baths, which was basically done with voluntary labour from local residents. The hours spent with horse and dray and shovel must have been colossal, but the foresight of these people in completing a full sized, 25 yard pool, is appreciated today.

Finance was an ever present threat to the organisers at this time, and many meetings were held with the district organisations and the Education Board to try and raise the necessary capital to enable progress to be maintained.

In 1936, the Education Board told the committee that "there would be no subsidy at present", but that did not seem to slow progress down. One month later Mr Heyward was asked to complete the well, and in February of the following year tenders were called for the concrete work and the erection of the fence.

The tender was accepted in April from Kerr and Thompson for this work. Their prices were, Baths £479, Fence £92-8s-6d. The decision on dressing sheds was held over at this stage for discussion with the contractor.

In October the Government gave the committee a grant of £200. Also at this time approaches were made to residents for loans to pay contractors who were by now requesting payment. A further request was made to the Education Board to cover the difference between the money available and costs, by way of subsidy or loan.

Permission was sought at this time from the Waipara County Council to lay pipes across the road to carry the water from the school to the baths, for showers.

On the 18th December, 1937, the Chairman of the Waipara County Council officially opened the baths, and later a public meeting was held to form a swimming club and to authorise purchase of life-saving devices. A letter was written to Waikari School inviting them to make use of the new facilities, for swimming lessons.

The year 1938 seemed a year in which many financial problems were encountered. Letters were written to and received from the Minister of Internal Affairs requesting money, both from his ministry and from the newly formed Sports Council, to complete payment of the pool complex.

Many requests for payment were received throughout the year from Kerr and Thompson, who at this time had not been reimbursed for all their costs. Subsequently in October they wrote saying that if the account was not paid immediately they would proceed with legal action.



However throughout the year various fund raising activities had been held. The swimming club held a Ball. A Queen Carnival was arranged for December, with Queens representing Balmoral and Culverden, Hurunui, The Peaks, Medbury, Mason's Flat and Hawarden. A hare drive was held in July, and a dance in October following the opening of the Baths for the season.

The records show that even in mid 1940, Kerr and Thompson were still writing for money. It is not clear whether this £11-0s-0d was the original tender or, for work done subsequently.

For the next few years everything ran relatively smoothly, with a request in 1944, for the Saleyards Company to lease 3 or 4 acres of land adjoining the baths, to the school, with a purchase clause included in the agreement.

It was years later, in 1946, when, after an inspection by the Education Board, they advised the Committee that the water was unsuitable, and the baths were to close because of lack of suitable water. However early in 1947 the local residents rectified the situation by repairing the baths water supply thus enabling them to open the baths again.

Also at this time the swimming club were granted the use of the pool, provided there was a suitable person in attendance at all times.

Early in 1950 the well from which the baths water was obtained was connected to the toilets, and a grant was made by the Education Board for making the pool watertight. A swimming week for Standards 3 and 4 and Forms 1 and 2 was also held in February of that year.

During the ensuing years the water supply was not improved to any great extent, and with the gradual deterioration taking place the move was taken in 1954 to empty the baths until a better water supply was found. Except for the filling of the pool in 1955 to a depth of 2 feet for fire fighting purposes, it was to remain unusable for the next fifteen years.

All those that attended school during this period, will no doubt remember the frogs and other aquatic life that called

the swimming pool their home, during these years.

Swimming instruction was carried out from time to time by travelling to Culverden Baths. Teams for swimming events were selected at swimming holes in rivers over the decade and a half the pool was inoperative.

Over the ensuing years much was done to try to make the baths operational again by the searching for a suitable water supply. This included the sinking of a 200 foot bore in 1958, which once again taxed the valuable funds and the school committee's own pockets. It was to this end that the proceeds of the show "It's in the Bag" were used. Selwyn Too-good brought this show to Hawarden in August 1958 and along with other fund raising efforts, money was raised to start installation of a filter system for the baths, so that it needed only to be filled once a year. The fillings used to be done by Les Baker's irrigation plant at Baker's Ford. Tanks on trucks were filled and later emptied by the fire engine in a shuttle service until the required depth was reached.

With the completion of the filtration system in 1959, the baths were then reopened on the 15th March, 1960, by the Education Board member for the area, Mr Murray.

One year later, after many donations had been received, the final account for the filtration plant was paid, and the baths painted. It was also at this time that a meeting was held to discuss the reforming of the swimming club, which subsequently took place in that year.

Over the next few years various working bees were held to lay concrete, erect a fence at the front, paint black lines on the bottom etc., and in 1969 a grant of \$1,000 was given by the Education Board for the inclusion of flush toilets and a septic tank on the site. The water source was connected to the Hawarden-Waikari township's supply at this time.

In 1970, made possible by a generous donation from Mrs Cowie, a 24' x 12' x 2' learners' pool was constructed, and it has proved to be a great asset to learner swimmers.



**Baths in 1940s**

Note the grass verge and former style of fence



**Calf Judging on an Agricultural Club Day**



## **Boys' and Girls' Agricultural Club**

The Boys' and Girls' Agricultural Club was formed in 1941. Following a public meeting in Hawarden on the 27th October, 1941, it was decided that a stock judging competition would be held for school pupils. A further decision of the meeting was that no prizes would be given, but that certificates would be presented to those who merited them. This policy was continued until the agricultural clubs went into recess. The first Chairman was Mr W. R. E. Booker and the first secretary was Mr E. R. McClatchy.

Unfortunately because of the war it was resolved that there be no more activity after this first competition until things improved.

It was on the 28th July 1944, that the next meeting was held with the same chairman and Mr G. W. Soal being elected to the position of secretary. Mr Soal was to continue in this position until he left Waikari school in 1956. Too much praise can not be possible for Mr Soal, who virtually kept the Agricultural Clubs alive, during the period he was associated with it. He attended the Canterbury Agricultural Clubs' meetings in Christchurch representing our schools on this committee very ably and with considerable dedication, and all the time on his own.

The schools in the Agricultural Clubs scheme were Kaikoura, Amuri, Cheviot, Hawarden-Waikari, Kowai, Rangiora, Eyre, Cust, Oxford, Tawera, North Malvern, South Malvern, Darfield, Ellesmere, Lincoln, Little River, Peninsula, Christchurch City.

During its operation, keen interest was taken in the club's activities, by both children and parents alike. Much help was made available by local people during the club's activities, to promote, foster and run all facets of the club's interests.

Large entries were normally received for the gardening projects and also for the stock parade days. As an example, in 1955 there were 563 entries in the stock show held at the school. Similarly, there were pleasing entries in the gardening section, with 198 entries, 169 of which were completed and judged. A mammoth task it must have been, for the judges to travel around and appraise these gardens.

On stock parade days it was policy to invite various Christchurch schools up, to be present at the judging, and to see for themselves animals and activities that would be impossible for them to otherwise see. Some of those taking advantage of this invitation were Heaton Intermediate, Waimairi, Presbyterian and Methodist Children's Homes, and Lyttelton Main School.

It is indeed unfortunate that this club foundered after the departure of Mr Soal. Whilst he was there he was indeed a true driving force keeping it alive, and instilling a keen interest in the children, to accomplish something on their own, and at the same time keeping a record of their endeavours in a specially provided book.

## Headmasters



**Mr R. M. Clague**

1927

Mr R. M. Clague was born in Perth, Western Australia, "at the turn of the century", but when he was five years of age, his parents moved to New Zealand, making Christchurch their home town. Having had only a few months in the Infant Department of Leederville School in Perth, he continued his primary education at Christchurch East. He then went to Christchurch Boys' High, matriculated, became a pupil teacher at Linwood, went to the Christchurch Training College, and gained his B.A. degree at Canterbury University.

The teaching experience of Mr Clague could be summarised as follows:

- 1917-18—Pupil Teacher, Linwood.
- 1919-20—Christchurch Training College.
- 1921-22—Assistant Lyttelton West.
- 1923-24—Assistant Lyttelton Main.
- 1924-27—Head Teacher, Horsley Down.
- 1927—Temporary Head Teacher, Hawarden.
- 1928-37—Head Teacher, Halswell.
- 1938—Head Teacher, Tinwald.

1939—Exchange Teacher, London. War broke out and he assisted in the removal of London School Children to safer country areas. He cycled daily to the villages to check attendances, convey messages, and report any difficulties to the headmaster.

1940-45—Army Service. He was an N.C.O., and at Westerfield was made R.S.M. of the Second Canterbury Regiment, with the rank of W.O. 1. Later transferring to Burnham he was commissioned Lieutenant; and towards the end of the war, appointed Education and Rehabilitation Officer.

1946—Head Teacher, Kaiapoi.

1946-55—Head Teacher, Riccarton.

Retiring in 1956, Mr Clague and his wife have "oscillated" many times, by sea and air, between New Zealand and the United Kingdom, where they share many contacts and interests in both lands, Mrs Clague having been born in London, and was an exchange teacher to New Zealand when they first met.



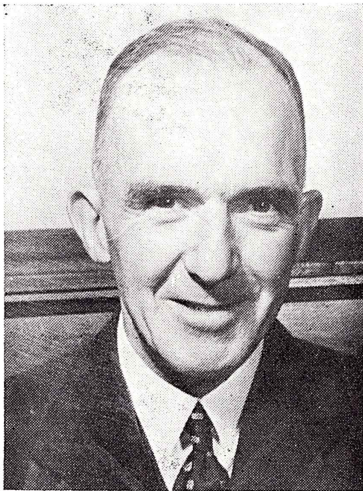
## **Mr D. G. Wilson**

**1928-1933**

Mr Wilson came to Hawarden in August 1928, and stayed until August in 1933. He was a man who did not keep good health, and this probably explains why he was irritable on many occasions. But he also had a good deal of patience, and would sit for long periods with a child explaining certain aspects of a lesson, until it was firmly grasped by the

pupil. He was very strict, and treated girls in the same manner as boys, reprimanding all pupils with the strap if any misbehaving was apparent. After leaving Hawarden he became a School Inspector, until ill health forced him to retire.

—Contributed by a former pupil



## **Mr H. J. Mackie**

**September 1933-1937**

Mr H. J. Mackie began teaching in 1910 as a pupil teacher and then spent two years at Teachers Training College. After teaching at Fitzroy, Inglewood, and Okau schools he joined the first expeditionary force in August 1915. As a member of the 3rd field Ambulance he was wounded at the Somme in 1916 and invalided home.

In August 1919 he returned to teaching, filling various relieving positions including Lincoln School. He also taught at Teachers' Training College and was Assistant Master at St. Albans and Sydenham Schools. His appointment as Secondary Assistant Master to Christchurch West District High School (now Hagley High School) was followed by

his appointment as Headmaster to Hawarden District High School in September 1933, where he remained until 1937. He was a keen cricketer and was always encouraging children to take an active part in sport.

Daughter June remembers Mr Mackie being very keen to get the school baths established, though he was only to see this amenity opened the same year he left Hawarden. She remembers him bringing home footballs and basketballs to be pumped up and relaxed.

Mr Mackie studied at Wellington and Canterbury Universities, had a B.A. degree along with a Diploma of Education.

## **Mr J. E. Maxwell**

**1938-1940**

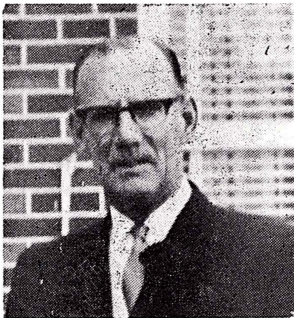
Mr Maxwell was endowed with a sense of humour, in which he could see the funny side of a situation, no matter how bad it may have been.

Before coming to Hawarden in January 1938, he had had considerable teaching experience, dating from his return from the first World War.

He was a man who fostered good relations between the school and the

District, by introducing sporting fixtures, between past and present pupils. An occasion would seldom pass, or a situation would not arise on which Mr Maxwell would not have a suitable quotation to sum up the occasion appropriately.

—Contributed by a former staff member



## **Mr E. R. McClatchy**

**1941-1943**

Mr E. R. McClatchy attended Timaru South Primary School, followed by Timaru Boys' High School. As was common for older pupils around these years, Mr McClatchy became a pupil teacher in 1920 at Timaru South School, and in 1921 a pupil teacher at St. Albans School in Christchurch. He was a student teacher at Christchurch Teachers' College in 1922 and 1923, before attending Canterbury College where he graduated Bachelor of Arts in 1926 while also being Assistant Master at East Christchurch School from 1924 to 1933. He was then appointed Teacher in charge of the Secondary Department of Kaikoura District High School. Mr McClatchy was

Headmaster of Sefton School for a year prior to becoming our Headmaster in 1941, seeing us through those war years.

It is little wonder, with lighting restrictions at the school during his term, that the pressure was placed on the Education Board \*"for the early erection of the promised new High School building".

On leaving Hawarden District High School in 1943, Mr McClatchy became Headmaster of Oxford High School until his retirement from teaching in 1963.

\* from School Committee records.





### **Mr W. L. Stewart**

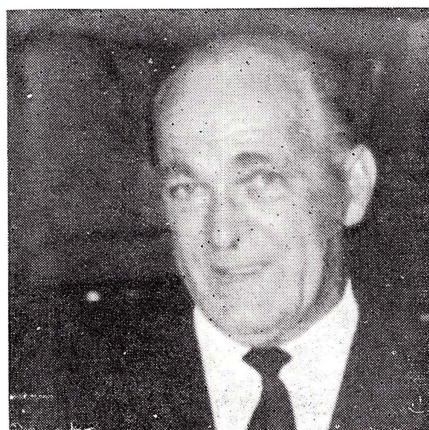
1947-1952

The late Mr W. L. Stewart was educated at Wharenui Primary School and Christchurch Boys' High, Teachers' Training College and Canterbury University, where he obtained his B.A. degree. He was sole teacher at Halkett, and First Assistant at Cashmere where he finished his degree, majoring in Education.

In 1926 Mr Stewart went to Southland to be Headmaster at Waimatuku, Dipton, and Secondary Assistant in charge at Wyndham District High School; Headmaster at Hinds for nine years, before coming to Hawarden as our seventh Headmaster and remained in charge from June 1947 until his resignation on the 7th September 1952—a period of five years plus, and a fairly static school roll of 165 primary and 78 High School pupils.

At Wyndham District High School he introduced pupil study of their own district, which was expanded into Social Studies of New Zealand and the world, and he carried on this study at Hawarden. School Committee minutes record their "congratulations to the Headmaster on the high standard of Inspector reports" on two occasions during his term at Hawarden, thereby showing his leadership qualities and the achievements he was obtaining.

He left Hawarden District High School for Waltham School until he became Headmaster at Rangiora, from where he retired in 1961.



### **Mr J. E. Clemens**

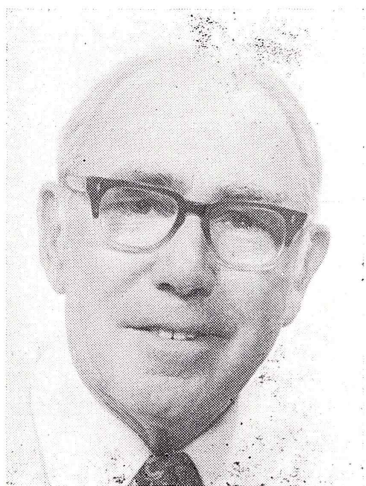
1952-1955

Born in Picton 1904, Mr Clemens attended primary school there, until shifting to Dunedin and receiving his secondary education at Otago Boys' High School. After leaving school he attended the University of Otago, and Dunedin Teachers' College, graduating M.A. in 1936 and obtaining a Diploma in Education in 1937. While at university, he excelled in all sport, representing them in gymnastics, and also playing golf and tennis.

Mr Clemens' teaching career began at Forbury School in 1922 as a student teacher, and from 1938 until his retirement in 1961 he was headmaster at various schools in Otago and Canterbury.

Throughout his life, Jim Clemens showed interest in people. He made a point of knowing all pupils by their Christian name, and took an interest in their well being, liking to know too how they fared after leaving school.

Those who attended Hawarden while he was headmaster, will probably recall the motto he used regularly; "Never waste a minute, as you cannot call it back".



**Mr N. B. Clarke**

1956-1960

Mr N. B. Clarke attended the Pleasant Point, Lyttelton and Addington Primary Schools, Christchurch West District High School then Christchurch Boys' High School in the sixth form. He trained at Dunedin Teachers' College and attended both Canterbury and Otago Universities.

His teaching career began at Mornington (Dunedin). Later he was assistant at Grey-mouth, had Sole charge at Inchbonnie, Te Arai (North Auckland) and Glenrow; First Assistant at Leeston Consolidated, Headmaster at Dobson and Granity District High School, before becoming our Headmaster in June 1956, where he was to remain until his resignation in December 1960.

Mr Clarke was well known here for his musical abilities, which led to the highly successful revival of the Annual end of year School Concerts. He conducted several adult choirs and children's choirs including training Timaru Schools' Festival Choir, and still enjoys singing in them.

A healthy balance was maintained in the sporting and academic fields for in 1960 Hawarden took second place in School Certificate Chemistry. Mr Clarke's own interest in football and tennis were evident in trips organised for such sporting activities, Geraldine and Kaikoura being the extremities at the time. He still enjoys playing golf and bowls.

On leaving Hawarden, Mr Clarke was appointed Headmaster at Waimataitai (Timaru) until his retirement.



**Mr R. W. McVie**

1961-67

After his arrival in Hawarden the qualities of Mr McVie were soon evident, not only within the school gates, but also in the district. His musical abilities were outstanding, and he was both organist with in the church and choirmaster for many occasions. He always believed in the importance of children not only achieving a high academic standard, but also cultural appreciation and enjoyment.

Mr McVie was educated at Pakakaia School and Waitaki Boys' High School, and was a pianoforte pupil of the late Miss K. Cartwright. After attending Dunedin Teachers' College, he spent four years in the Army with three years overseas where he joined the Eighteenth Armoured Regiment. He returned to Dunedin Teachers' College and the Otago University where he graduated with a Bachelor of Music, winning the Charlies Begg Scholarship.

He taught in Dunedin at George Street, and after a period at Kaura Hill, he returned to George Street Normal School. He was Headmaster at Akaroa District High School prior to coming here to Hawarden District High School in 1961. Soon after arriving he was awarded a Fulbright Scholarship to the United States and taught at Billingshurst Junior High School in Reno, Nevada, Mr Harper holding his position, until he returned.

In December, 1976 after thirty-five years in the teaching profession, Mr R. W. McVie retired.





## **Mr T. E. M. Harper**

1968-1975

The late Mr T. E. M. Harper was associated with the Hawarden District High School for seventeen years, being Principal for the last seven, before his retirement. He was educated at Elmwood Primary School and Christchurch Boys' High School before attending Canterbury University and Christchurch Teachers' College where he obtained an M.A. degree, a Diploma of Education and part of a Bachelor of Commerce degree.

During his studies he was teaching part-time. Mr Harper obtained a position at Richmond School during the depression receiving £6-10s a month. During 1933 he took relieving positions around Christchurch, and in 1934 took a sole charge position in the South Otago township of Chaslands, playing cricket for South Otago during his two year appointment.

Mr Harper then taught for three years at Sydenham, in 1940 taking up his first position as a Secondary teacher at Christchurch Technical College. In 1941 he returned to his own High School

settling there for fifteen years, crossing the Arts-Science barrier by teaching English, Mathematics and 6th form Book-keeping, eventually specialising in Book-keeping.

In 1958 Mr Harper took up our position of Senior Secondary Assistant, after ten years being appointed Principal. With his Christchurch Boys' High School experience he modified the curriculum, simplifying it and cutting out some of the small, extraneous subjects the school could not really support. There was greater staff stabilisation and an even spread of pupils through the subject range, bringing up the academic standard. Specialist subjects were left for Tertiary Education.

Under Mr McVie, they saw a high pass in School Certificate in 1967, when 19 of 22 candidates were successful.

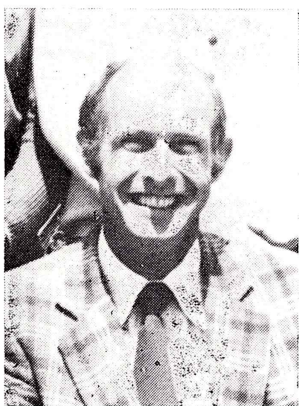
He was well known for beautifying the school grounds and, with a keen caretaker, attended and added garden areas and planting shrubs around the school.

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## **Mr F. Dodd**

Principal 1976

Mr F. Dodd, M.A. (Hons.), Dip. Ed., Adv. Dip. Tchg., A.N.Z.E.I.



## **R. J. Pilkington**

1977

As a son of a primary school teacher Mr R. J. Pilkington was educated at Maraetai Beach, Mataraua, Ohaeawai and Wellsford schools during his primary school years, and attended Sacred Heart College (Auckland) for 5 years for his secondary education.

After leaving school he attended Auckland Teachers' College in 1959 and 1960. As a first year teacher he taught at Pasadena Intermediate School (Auckland) in 1961, following which he transferred to Victoria Avenue Primary (Auckland) from 1962 to May of 1967. In May 1971 he was appointed Principal at Takahiwai School (Whangarei district) before moving in September of 1970 to Southern Bay of Plenty where he was Principal of Huiarau School at Ruatahuna, until May

of 1975. A transfer to the South Island saw Mr Pilkington as Deputy Principal at the newly established Lawrence Area School. In January of 1977 he was appointed as the first Principal of the new Hawarden Area School.

During these years Mr Pilkington studied part-time and extra-murally at Auckland University from where he graduated in 1969 as Bachelor of Arts. In 1975 he gained his Diploma of Education from Massey University.

His teaching experience covers all classes from Primer 1 to Form 6.

His aims at Hawarden Area School are to provide as broad an academic, social, cultural and sporting programme as possible to meet the needs and interests of the students.

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## **Caretakers**

Mr Quinliven, the first school caretaker received £40 per year. In 1937 the caretaker's salary was increased to £52 per annum because he was now cleaning the High School also. It was now a full time position. Subsequent caretakers have been:

Mr Lance Wright  
Mr Frank Manning

Mr Tom Crean  
Mr Bruce Beere  
Mr Alf Topp  
Mr Des Warwick

They have all given cheerful devotion to the care of the school, and its pupils, earning the gratitude of parents, staff and pupils. The school grounds have been kept to a high standard.





#### **Debutantes—1956**

This photograph was printed in the Auckland Weekly. The caption read: HAWARDEN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL EX-PUPILS' ASSOCIATION'S first debutante ball drew a crowd of 400 dancers to watch the presentation of nine debutantes to the principal of the school, J. E. Clemens, and Mrs Clemens and to the senior inspector of schools, J. F. Johnson, and Mrs Johnson. Our picture shows debutantes in FRONT ROW, from left: Ngairy Inwood, Nancy Manning, Barbara Gimblet. MIDDLE ROW: Mr and Mrs Johnson, Mr and Mrs Clemens, Mrs R. H. Manning, P. H. Crean. BACK ROW: Hazel Galletly, Olive Mulligan, Jill Preston, Barbara Manning, Margaret McLean, Valerie Forster.

# **Hawarden District High School**

## **Ex Pupils Association**

There do not appear to be any written records of the activities of this association. Former pupils recall the Sports days when old pupils of the school returned to play rugby, cricket, rounders, tennis and basketball against the "firsts" of the school, with keen rivalry and celebration after the events.

Possibly the past pupils association was formed in 1936. On 29 September in this year there is an acknowledgement in the School Committee minutes of a donation of £6-7s-10d to the school from the Association. The first entry in the Post Office Savings Bank was made in 1938 with the deposit of £7-9s-0d.

In 1940 the School committee records a euchre and dance arranged by the Ex Pupils Association for school funds. This year the Ex Pupils Association went into recess and was revived again in 1944.

A wool shed dance was an outstanding success (Why was this such a highlight for Frank Forrester in his teenage years, I wonder?)

The annual Ball became the Annual Debutante Ball in 1954. "The Press" May 29, 1954 records the function in detail—

"About 400 guests watched the presentation of the nine debutantes to the principal of the school (Mr J. E. Clemens) and Mrs Clemens and the senior Inspector of schools (Mr J. F. Johnson) and Mrs Johnson.

"The debutantes who were trained by Mrs R. H. Manning entered the ball-room with their partners along a red carpet, made their curtsy and mounted the artistically-decorated dais, up carpeted steps, to meet the official guests. The debutantes all wore beautiful white frocks, and each carried a posy of pastel-shaded flowers backed with silver leaves. They were the gift of Mrs W. P. Neave."

"The Press" describes in detail the frocks worn by Mrs Clemens and Mrs Manning and the "Christchurch Star" printed individual descriptions of the frocks the debutantes wore. Coverage of the Ball complete with official photograph was printed in the "Auckland Weekly".

The first debutantes were: Ngaire Inwood, Nancy Manning, Barbara Gimblet, Hazel Galletly, Olive Mulligan, Jill Preston, Barbara Manning, Margaret McLean and Valerie Forster.

Invited guests included the Chairman of the School Committee, Mr J. W. Hewitt and Mrs Hewitt; Mr and Mrs George Soal (Headmaster of the Waikari School); President of the Ex Pupils Association, Mr P. H. Crean, with Miss M. Crean receiving the guests. The secretary was Mr Noel Brosnan.

"Press" cuttings of later Debutante Balls revealed the "official dais as an imitation rock garden with concealed lighting effects, the erection of pillars and ballustrade around the dais and a giant replica of the school crest forming a striking background".

Hawarden has been noted for the quality of the floral art created by many of the women and it is obvious that they contributed to this important occasion for the debutantes when they were ceremoniously presented to adult society.

Sixteen debutantes "came out" at one Ball, but popularity declined and the Ball was dropped in 1961. The Ex Pupils Association continued to run for a few years and finally went into recess probably in 1964 when the final entry in the Post Office Savings Bank is made. There appears to be a credit of funds belonging to this organisation in excess of \$171.00.



## AWARDS

Cups and awards have been presented over the years, although some presentations have been dropped while others have been continued.

### House System

The original House System comprised of Gladstone House, Sumner House and Hawarden House. (Gladstone was the original name for the Hawarden Township). A Tennis Cup bears witness to the fact that houses competed for this trophy. Inscribed 1932 to 1935, Gladstone House; 1935-1936 season, Hawarden House; 1936 to 1940, Gladstone House; 1940-1941 season, Hawarden House.

The School Committee entertained the Sumner children to a luncheon at O'Connors in 1931, (obviously before the cup came into competition).

The present house system consists of four houses: Sumner, Mason, Taylor, and Shepherd—all named after the main Lakes at the head of the Hurunui River.

### Dux Medals

The first Dux Medal was donated to the school by Mr H. C. Sidey in 1928. The first recipient was Kath Quigley. Mr G. Ecroyd also donated a medal and the School Committee bought some Dux Medals in the following years. The awardee in 1937 was Joan Brooker.

**Hampson Challenge Shield.** Presented by T. P. Hampson Esq. Waikari, August 28th 1928, for competition among Primary Schools in the Hurunui Rugby Sub-Union District. Names featuring as holders are: Cheviot, Waikari, Culverden, Hawarden and Kaikoura once. With the largest roll Hawarden eventually dominated this field to the stage of deciding to handicap. This was not resolved to the satisfaction of all, so competition ceased and the Hampson Shield hangs idly in the Hawarden School Library.

### Swimming Cups

The Pierce, Taruna, Rutherford, Hawarden Swimming Club and Hassall Cups are competed for at the annual swimming carnivals.

**The Smellie Plaque** presented by Mr Lester Smellie in memory of his only son, who died in a machinery accident, was awarded for Proficiency in Stock Judging Competitions.

### Mason Prizes

In 1951 the School was presented with the Mason Centennial Cup and the Mason Centennial Bursary from the descendants of the first settlers in this district.

The Mason Centennial Cup was awarded to the pupil delivering the best speech on any aspect of farming in the district. This year four competitors were judged by Mr L. McCaskell who awarded Ailsa Roberts the Cup for her speech on the "Rutherfords of 'Lesley Hills'." Other competitors were A. P. Crean, who spoke on the Mason Family, W. J. Grieve, who spoke on the Corriedale and W. B. Earl who spoke on Agricultural Developments in the district.

The Mason Centennial Bursary which had an annual value of £4 to £5 was awarded to pupils who were proceeding to Rangiora High School, Lincoln College or any other approved school for the purpose of taking an Agricultural, Horticultural or Homecraft Course. The Bursary was to be spent on the purchase of Text Books, Instruments etc.

### Team Photographs

Sports teams and other school photographs were originally displayed in the High School Library. The School Committee donated the photographs and frames, with the instruction that these be updated each year. These could well be preserved with other school records as historical contributions to the character and tradition of the school.

## **A Teacher Reminisces**

MRS ELDA BROOKER was a highly respected school teacher with an outstanding record of service in the Hawarden area. She taught for two years each at Hurunui, Medbury and Mason's Flat schools and did relieving work at The Peaks. After the consolidation of the District schools she taught in Hawarden from 1928-36 under a colleague from Training College days, Mr D. G. Wilson.

She tells of the sole charge school of Hurunui, averaging about 12 pupils. Drinking water came from a 400 gallon tank which she and the pupils cleaned, bucketing out muddy silt, birds nests and decaying mice and rats, then had to wait for the next rainfall to complete the clean out and replenish the water supply.

When she asked Mr Earshman, the chairman of the school Committee, whom she describes as "a kindly gentleman", to write her a testimonial, his reply was "you write one yourself and I'll sign it". This she refused to do, but later received a glowing testimonial which she learned was written by the manager of the Farmers Co-op., whom she had never met.

Readers may remember the "Salute the Flag" ceremony which the Minister of Education ruled should be performed once a week. Pupils marched to the flagpole. The flag was hoisted, and each child pronounced:—

"I salute my flag symbol of Empire,  
"Emblem of liberty and Justice."

Listening carefully one day, to her horror she realised they were saying "Empty of liberty and Justice". A period of explanation from the printed word on the blackboard followed.

She describes the very popular fancy dress dance and concerts, held annually, when the Hawarden Hall would be filled to capacity with parents and friends. Before this event the children were taught the Grand March, Lancers, Fascinating Polka, Maxina and other old time dances, and the etiquettes of the gentleman politely approaching his partner, bowing and asking "for the pleasure of this dance".

Her classes at Hawarden consolidated school were comprised of no less than 54 and up to 63 pupils! As an economy measure, by the then Conservative government, children were not allowed to commence school until they were 6 years old, and training colleges were closed. The salaries of those teachers who were employed were cut 10 per cent, a further 10 per cent and then another 5 per cent "to help pay the unemployed, And no-one rebelled! We were thankful to be employed," she said.

During her teaching period, inspectors decided that pupils should give morning talks. Mrs Brooker urged them not to discuss happenings at homes "though naturally the lives of smaller children revolved round the home". One boy's talk was about the Hawarden Ewe Fair. "Dad went to the Ewe Fair. He bought a sugar bag of spuds and a case of tomatoes, then came home without them. Wasn't Mum wild". Times haven't changed much, they still have a bar at the Hawarden Ewe Fair!

Another talk: "Mum says I can go to the school picnic if I am good, so I got up early, chopped the kindling wood and emptied the 'poes'." Emptying the chamber pots is no longer the housewife's chore.

Mrs Brooker daily drove the Medbury School Bus—the "Meat van". The seats alongside each side and down the middle were wooden and very uncomfortable, and driving in a snow storm without the luxury of windscreen wipers was a chilling and dangerous experience.

She tells of stopping the bus, and with the children, admiring a wood pigeon which flew out from a ripe red berry laden hawthorn tree.

Many children remember with affection Elda Brooker whose motto was:

"Always encourage  
Correct kindly  
Accept graciously  
Refuse finally".



## **Reminiscences by J. G. Y. Beath, B.A., Dip. Soc. Sci.**

Teacher 1936-1941

I happened to be a patient in the Chalet Hospital, Dunedin, when I received word that I had been appointed primary assistant at Hawarden District High School. This was in December, 1935. I mentioned the fact to a fellow patient, but he soon corrected my pronunciation from "Har/war/den" to "Hardin". He happened to come from Hanmer Springs.

I arrived at Hawarden, February, 1936, and found the Headmaster to be Mr Howard Mackie. He was a real enthusiast, who had quite modern ideas on education. I found him to be very helpful and co-operative. In 1939 he was promoted to Headmaster at Spreydon School, Christchurch. His successor, like Mr Mackie, a returned soldier, was Mr James Maxwell. He was tall and erect, and walked with a military bearing. I resigned in May, 1941, to take up the position of Senior Secondary Assistant at Owaka D.H.S. Mr Maxwell left at the same time to become Head at Howick D.H.S. His next and final position was Helensville D.H.S. I was at Owaka until June 1952, and then left for Westport Technical College as First Assistant. In November 1961 I was appointed the first Principal at Dunstan High School at Alexandra, Central Otago. I retired in January 1969.

### **Reminiscences**

Highlights of my teaching time at Hawarden were the most enjoyable picnics and excursions we had to Stewarts Gully, Leithfield, Corsair Bay, Mr Harry Piercy's, the Waitohi Bridge, and the Industries' Fair in Christchurch.

I would like to relate one of my first experiences in my new job. I took over the Medbury bus run from Mrs E. Brooker. The bus was a B4 Ford, and it certainly lived up to its name. At the recent jubilee celebrations I sat, once again in the driver's seat and let my mind wander over the 1937-1941 period. I also drove it when Mr Lester Smellie owned

it as a farm truck. Now back to the story. Well, on this particular day, I was travelling up the Medbury road on the way to Hawarden, when, to my horror, I saw a big flame and a huge billow of smoke in the body of the bus. (I saw this in the large mirror above my head). An emergency stop was made. In seconds the front door and the emergency door at the rear were opened, and the pupils evacuated. I then made an investigation, and on looking into the bus I soon found the reason for the trouble. Someone had set light to a full tin (4d.) of wax matches. The culprit was found, and justice was swiftly dispensed. I took my leather out of my case, and efficiently administered four of the best to the guilty party, right there and then in the middle of the Medbury road. As I returned to the bus, I noticed that there had been three witnesses (most amused ones I must admit) to the punishment.

I well remember the sad bus accident on the Mason's Flat run. When I arrived at the school the following morning, I had the doubtful honour of "doing the run".

At the jubilee, former pupils brought back memories with such words as "Strongheart" and "Love Tap". These words were well known to all pupils of Standards 3 and 4 in the period 1936-1941.

I vividly recall an incident one dinner hour when I was coaching the rugby team. The time came when I was running with the ball, all was going well, until I was solidly tackled from behind, and I came to a sudden grinding halt. The cause? Bill Prenderville had jumped over the fence and, unknown to me, had decided to take part in the game. The look on the faces of the boys had to be seen to be believed. I knew what I simply had to do. It was obvious I had to save "face". Some time later, Bill, and he was no chicken, came tearing down the field.

I had always been a good tackler in my rugby representative days, so in I went. Bill was brought down, but I had the greatest difficulty in trying to look unconcerned. The boys' faces fairly beamed. Little did they know that I felt as if I had been through a mangle.

I enjoyed my five years or so at Hawarden very much indeed. I married in 1937 and set up house in the old Medbury school house. No modern conveniences at all. No water laid on to the

house, but I corrected this later on. No electric light, for some time. On ironing nights, I used to heat the flat irons on a primus stove. My salary was £17 a month, and I used to swell this amount by playing the violin at dances with Mrs Ginders, Freddy Rydings and Brian Begg.

Participation in golf, tennis, miniature rifle shooting, deer and pig shooting, completed a full life.

"Floreath Hawarden".

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## **Miss Muriel Rolls Remembers**

I began at Hawarden on 10 October, 1938, and remained until December 1943. I replaced Mrs May Kellock (nee Ballinger) as Secondary Assistant and at that time Mr Jim Maxwell was Headmaster and Mr Bill Parsonage, Senior Secondary Assistant. During my term Mr Parsonage was replaced by Mr Duncan Brown and Mr Maxwell by Mr Eric McClatchy.

In those days the Secondary Department was housed in a two roomed, corrugated iron building which had been brought up from Geraldine eight years previously, as a temporary building. It was still in use when I left five years later, but, thanks mainly to the persistence of Mr McClatchy's successor, Mr O'Donaghue, a modern, five roomed, wooden building was erected about two years later.

I was appointed to teach Commercial subjects and Handwork, but as in other two-teacher District High Schools, no teacher could have so few subjects and English, French, Social Studies and Singing fell to my lot, while the Senior Assistant coped with Geography, History, Mathematics and Science. With excellent pupil co-operation, in one period one was asked to cope with form three and four typing, form three and four French in the classroom, and also a craft group working in the corridor. Yet it was possible in one year to achieve 100 per cent pass rate in School Certificate from our six candidates, and in the same year produce a successful evening of four one act plays.

Recording these things one must refer again to our accommodation—a corrugated iron, unceilinged building, heated in winter by a coke stove at one end of each room, with morning temperatures such that ink was frozen in the inkwells. In summer the fierce heat on the iron, plus the many nor'westers added to our working problems.

The outstanding memory of Hawarden District High School is the happy, willing teacher-pupil relationship and it was this which made our successes possible. This applied not only to school work, but to our play evening for which all rehearsals had to take place in school rooms while classes were in progress because school buses took most of the pupils away at 3.15 p.m. It applied too, to the production of our first School Magazines produced in school hours by keen pupils, typists with little skill and a duplicator. Incidentally the plays, which were presented in the Hawarden Hall, were so successful that they were repeated in Waikari and in Waiau.

Next I must mention the school bus service to which I was introduced as a passenger, when I travelled daily from Mason's Flat for the first six weeks when I boarded there. I bought my first car in Hawarden in November-December 1938 and during the following year, when the Waiau bus driver went off to war and no other male was available, I was prevailed upon to undertake the job. I'm not sure of the dates, but as my war effort for fifteen months, I drove that bus 66



miles daily from Hawarden to Rotherham and back, then my own car 14 miles for the return trip, Rotherham to Waiau. We left home at 7.15 a.m. and reached school, travelling by way of Balmoral Forestry, and picked up mail and cream cans from Hurunui to Hawarden, where we (about 56 primary and Secondary pupils on board) were due at 8.45 a.m. After teaching all day, I set off again at 3.15, delivering mail and empty cream cans up to Hurunui and finally reached Waiau at about 4.45 ready for dinner and bed!

As the photographs have shown, the buses in those days were very different from today's comfortable versions and, remembering the summer and winter temperatures of the area, it won't be difficult to imagine what the dust of the Balmoral road and the cold of winter meant to us all, especially in the V8 with its canvas "windows". Yet not a day was missed, even in snow when the boys had to help clear the windscreen, or on one occasion when we had to spend the night billeted at Culverden because the flooded rivers made the road impassable. It is no wonder that I am still pleased to number those Waiau girls among my friends. I should add that in winter we sometimes stopped the bus on the forestry road, and got out to do some folk dancing to warm up our toes, and that I was always very grateful to the kind lady in whose shed the bus was housed at Rotherham, who greeted us each morning with a kerosene tin of hot water to fill the radiator and help the bus to start.

As I've said, this was a war effort and I readily relinquished it when Mr Jim Ross joined the school staff and was happy to drive the bus. I was equally happy to change to the very much shorter Medbury route and make my home again in Hawarden.

A highlight of my years in Hawarden was collaborating with a friend, Dr Heini Susmann, then a guide at Fox Glacier, to arrange a week's visit to the Glacier. The Sullivans, proprietors of the Hotel, agreed to our having the use of the Annexe and the Services of Heini as Guide by day and Musical instructor by

night. The Principal of Hokitika District High School kindly arranged billeting for us overnight on our way to and from the Glacier and Road Services provided us with a bus and driver for the whole week, following our train journey from Christchurch to Hokitika. The total expenses only amounted to £6 each, and our only regret was that only eight girls could make the trip due to it being wartime. It was indeed a memorable week. For some it meant their first rail journey, and first experience of hotel accommodation and meals, as well as for all, the first sight and feel of a glacier. As well as being a first rate guide and musician, Heini was also a good photographer and we all had the thrill of having our Lake Matheson photograph printed on the front page of the "Times Education Supplement" in London with a brief account of our wonderful week, during which we walked on the Glacier, rowed on Lake Matheson, visited Gillespies Beach, Okarito, the Gold Dredge and Franz Josef Glacier as well as learning new songs and rounds.



## **Can You Remember?**

1. Long desks with ink well and water wells.
2. Sit up straight! Seats in! Arms folded! Eyes front!
3. Fires in winter. Pot bellied stoves you could burn your hands on. They used to warm the air near the teacher's table and front row desks!
4. Slates with the dirty slate rag attached by string to the frames. You spat and rubbed clean with the rag or the surreptitious wiping with a jersey sleeve.
5. The squeaky slate pencil.
6. Kellock's paddock. Who went out of bounds below that creek?
7. The fire in Kellock's cottage.
8. Armistice day 1918. It was followed so quickly by the Influenza Epidemic which claimed the lives of some of our classmates.
9. The two World Wars "They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old" wrote Binyon. How many of us remember them as though in their years at school.
10. Ration books for petrol and tea—beating up butter to make it go further.
11. Apples in schools—during the second World War when they couldn't be exported. They arrived four tonnes at a time in Prendeville's trucks.
12. Sitting quietly under the plum tree until you caught others pinching—and reported them.
13. The smelly urinals—no flush then! The flush toilets were later installed away up behind the manual training block—the cracked concrete you had to negotiate to get there—and the tiny ones for the primers.
14. School garden plots. How we slaved to produce the best vegetables.
15. "Bar the Door". Buttons ripped off shirts and "please explain" from Mum.
16. Huts in trees.
17. Grass clipping tunnels under the trees.
18. Uncle Tom (Crean's) cabin.
19. Totty Jones—Was she really a witch?
20. Tuning forks—Doh, Soh, Me Doh!
21. Geography and History learned by definitions written on the blackboards, copied laboriously into note-books and memorised.
22. Oiled floors.
23. High windows. Lower panels were of frosted glass to stop the bored pupil from the relief of glimpsing the outside world. (What a revolutionary concept the High School building contained. Glass to the floor with wide, detailed views across the playing grounds, the road past McCorts, to the park, the Saleyards, and the Hills).
24. Milk in schools, the rattle of the crates, smelling empty bottles and dripping straws.
25. Sports visits to neighbouring schools. Waikari—rivals for the Hampson Shield, for rugby. The feeds after the games.
26. School Cocoa; heated in the old tin shed, later the film room and then the manual room.
27. Being locked in a High School back room—penalty for talking.
28. Part of the glamour of the sporting visits to Kaikoura including running out to sea, round a marker and home again along the shore.
29. Ruth Heasley as giving sewing instruction.
30. The train excursion arranged by the school committee for pupils and parents alike to view the film of the Queen's Coronation.
31. The ceremony for the hanging of the photograph of the late Mr J. O'Carroll in recognition of his services to the school.
32. The first school magazine was issued in November 1933.
33. Five year olds were not able to attend school in 1934-35.
34. The kerosene lamp in the centre of the family table. Flickering candles dripping fat as nightly we carried them to our bedrooms.
35. School lunches—dry bread.



36. The advent of electricity, with attendant, superior equipment and facilities came in 1935.

37. Using garters to flick the black-board.

38. Eating bread and dripping sandwiches outside.

39. Playing marbles.

40. Arriving home from school starving hungry.

41. The strap hitting the teacher when you pulled your hand away.

42. Bottle drives and sorting bottles for funds from 1954.

43. Foot scrapers outside each classroom door.

44. 1934 School closed for measles.

45. Tabloid Sports held at Waikari Domain.

46. Entering in the Hawarden A. and P. Show Printing and Writing and Sewing or woodwork. Entry fees and prizes abolished now.

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## **Facts To Ponder**

1. The School Committee, negotiating for the High School, met Peter Fraser, the Prime Minister, at 7 a.m. in the Education Board office in Christchurch. They left at 4 a.m. to get there. Said Peter Fraser, "I'm terribly sorry you boys had to get up so early" (before he left in the ferry for Wellington). No wonder they got the High School! Such dedication.

2. In the 1930s the school grounds were levelled with the aid of unemployed labour, horses and drays, pick and shovel.

3. Stella Galletly walked five miles delivering milk before school.

4. Ted Fahey lost his false teeth while bathing in the sea on a Corsair Bay school picnic. "Now poor Ted's a gummy, he was so sick," commented one child.

5. Hugh Horn first Waikari pupil to attend Hawarden High School.

6. The school magazine first published 1933. Revived later by Mr Bill Stewart. Called "Haordine".

7. An influenza epidemic caused the cancellation of the school social. Mr Harper said that 55 of the 100 post primary pupils were absent. (Late 1960's).

8. The school went to Scargill Valley for the arrival of the "Flying Farmer" Mr Ernie Clark who flew solo from England to New Zealand in 1936. £2-2s-0d was collected for the bus fare.

9. Mrs A. Cowie donated a Learners Swimming Pool to the school in memory of her late husband in 1970.

10. "Oh whistle—I'll come to you". The ground near where the school now stands was formerly used as a playground by the township's youngsters, including those of one very large family. On bath nights these children were called at intervals according to age by a blast of a whistle. The boys dropped the cricket bat the minute the whistle sounded. It was their turn in the tub and how they sprinted home.

11. An elderly Hawarden bachelor used to take the air, walking round the township accompanied by Alexander his enormous cat. When he stopped to chat, Alexander halted too and washed himself while he waited. As the nights grew colder he gave his owner no peace until they moved on to the warmth of the home fire.

12. Miss "Tot" Galletly now of Waikari tells of a certain small boy, youngest of a family, who hated school and thought up the usual excuses, headache, lost pencil, lost reader and so on, in order to stay home. One very wet day he trudged unwillingly towards the school finding the teacher outside the school, wearing raincoat and gumboots. When school was "out" he rushed home excitedly to tell how he had been piggy-backed into school. On ensuing wet days he refused to stay home.

13. Mrs (Bertha) Forrester described her husband's efforts to have the school built where it stands today. The favoured site by many was between the tennis courts and the Roman Catholic Church. Mr Forrester must be congratulated for his foresight in providing expansion potential on the picturesque site, on a slight elevation, backed by rolling hills and with magnificent mountain vistas to the north. The Hawarden school site was purchased from Mr George Rutherford in 1924. Consisting of 4 acres, 1 rood, the price was a princely sum of £164.

14. In 1969 Hawarden District High School had on the staff 5 primary, 5 secondary, 2 manual teachers and a school dental nurse. There were then 5 teachers' residences and a women teachers' Hostel which will accommodate 5 women. A fleet of five modern buses carries about 70 pupils from upwards of 20 miles distant. Many of the homes in the area are quite remote. The central school is well served for sports, with 2 football fields, 4 tennis courts, 3 netball courts, a cricket field, softball areas and an excellent filtered swimming pool.

—from notes by T. E. M. Harper

15. For the Crowning Ceremony of a Queen Carnival the Committee ordered

50 gallons of beer and 1 bottle of whisky. Rumour has it that the long standing Chairman was partial to whisky.

16. Mr Gason brought the furniture from all the schools to Hawarden.

17. Prospectus first printed and distributed by February 1948.

18. School Certificate first mentioned 1945 (nearing the completion of the new High School).

19. Milk in Schools scheme. 210 children were receiving it at Hawarden in 1941.

20. 1939 Telephones were installed in School.

21. Electricity turned on at school in 1935.

22. County Council and Education Board supplied shingle and cement for concreting. From Committee Minutes—"Mr J. Harvey was to be kept employed concreting steps in the meantime".

23. First High School Prefects were:—M. Ross, N. Craig and Rita Hogden.

24. Oscar Miles, Frank Steel, Jack Wright used horse and dray to cart the first loads of shingle for the school drive from the Hawarden Creek.





# **Hawarden and District Schools' Jubilee**

## **1881-1952**

**April 5th, 6th and 7th, 1952**

Former pupils from many parts of the Dominion attended the 70th Jubilee celebrations which opened with the ringing of the old school bell and the roll call. The school flag was hoisted by the School's youngest pupil, Warren Dalzell.

The chairman of the Jubilee Committee, Mr W. C. Wright, welcomed the assembly and outlined the origin of the celebrations. Progress had brought consolidation to the district and the present school; the District High School was carrying on the good work once done by separate schools, he said.

Mr W. M. Gillespie, M.P. for the district outlined the steps leading to the establishment of the District High School system. He considered the schools did very good work in providing a wide range of education at much less cost than sending pupils to town schools.

Mr C. N. McKenzie, deputy chairman of the Waipara County Council, congratulated the schools on attaining their 70th anniversary. Schools often appeared to be educating children in cities away from the land which he considered, would suffer if it did not have understanding and skilful persons living on it.

The roll call included the first two decades from Mason's Flat, Hurunui, Medbury, The Peaks, and Horsley Down and one decade for the consolidated school. Mrs E. H. Brooker, who taught at all the schools, called several rolls.

The oldest former pupils present were Mrs Bridson, who was second enrolled at the Mason's Flat school when it opened in 1881, and Mrs L. Travis, of the same school. Mrs Cosgriff called the roll for Horsley Down school and Mr D. G. Wilson for Hawarden.

During the celebrations, the Ex-Pupils Association presented to the school, a desk which today is used in the High School Library—now a classroom.

More than 600 persons attended the Jubilee Banquet. Mrs Bridson and Mrs Travis cut the Jubilee cake. A large toast-list was honoured.

These celebrations were continued on the Sunday when a large number of former pupils attended a church service, where the Rev. W. A. Chambers read the lessons, and the Rev. G. H. Schurr led the prayers. The address was given by the Rev. K. L. Warren.

The celebrations concluded with a children's sports meeting including an inter-school tug-of-war, which was won by The Peaks, and a memorable Anniversary Banquet and Jubilee Ball. Tickets for the ball cost 12/6 with dancing 8.30 p.m.-2 a.m.

The Jubilee Committee consisted of: Chairman, Mr W. C. Wright; Honorary Secretary, Mr W. J. J. Warwick; Assistant Secretary, Mr G. C. Mason; Treasurer, Mr J. W. Hewett. Committee, Mesdames W. Rogers, M. A. E. Philpott, W. C. Wright, E. B. Stanbury, R. B. Kellock, D. G. Scott, E. A. Grimwood; Messrs M. P. Bamford, F. K. Forrester, W. Crean, W. R. Fincham, R. H. Manning, J. E. Fletcher, C. G. Brooker, G. L. Holder, H. Sidey, L. G. R. Philpott, W. J. J. Earl, T. Power, W. L. Stewart (Headmaster) and Staff.

### **Details**

Jubilee Cake from Cains Caterers approximately 48 lbs.

Cains catered.

Ascot Photographers.

Johnson and Cousin Marquee.

By 22/2/52 they had 650 persons enrolled.

A tent was held at the A. & P. Show to distribute tickets, ribbons and badges.

Liquor order: 25 doz bottles Wards ale at 18/6 a doz.; 35 bottles Port at 8/- each; 35 bottles Sherry at 8/- each.





**Decade photograph 1931-1940**



**Unbeaten 1952 School Jubilee Tug-'o-war Team**

Jim Hewitt, Bob Manning, Alf Manning, Cecil White, Roland Manning, Douglas White.  
(All The Peaks "University" Students).





**1952 Celebrations—Cutting the cake**  
Mrs Bridson and Mrs Travis

## ***The Working Committee for the 1977 Jubilee Celebrations***

Mrs E. M. Rogers  
R. R. Manning  
Brian Hassall  
B. J. Dwyer  
L. C. Hassall  
P. H. Crean  
David Hassall  
D. J. Morrison  
Mrs E. Hassall  
Mr and Mrs C. H. Inch  
Mrs A. Sidey  
Mrs H. J. Purchas  
Mrs M. Hassall  
Mrs O. O'Carroll  
Mrs V. Ginders  
Mrs J. Jenson  
Mrs E. O'Carroll  
Mrs P. H. Manning (Treasurer)  
M. M. Earl  
K. W. Manning  
J. L. Wright  
J. C. Wright  
Mrs M. A. Evans  
Gavin J. W. Beere  
T. C. Power  
T. H. Westenra  
T. David Costello  
F. Dodd later J. Pilkington (Principals)  
David Reese (Chairman)  
W. C. Wright  
R. L. Brooker  
Tony Veitch (Secretary)  
R. Hassall  
J. J. O'Carroll  
Mrs M. Mitchell  
Mrs A. Power  
Mrs B. Booker





### Jubilee Committee 1977

**Back row:** T. Westenra, C. Inch, B. Dwyer, D. Morrison, D. Reese (Chairman), J. Wright, R. Brooker, J. Wright, D. Hassall, T. Vietch (Secretary).

**Centre row:** M. Evans, P. Manning (Treasurer), J. O'Carroll, M. Earl, B. Hassall, G. Beere, K. Manning, T. Power, R. Hassall, P. Crean, L. Hassall.

**Front row:** A. Sidey, J. Jenson, V. Ginders, M. Hassall, N. Inch, E. O'Carroll, E. Rogers, H. Purchas, A. Power, E. Hassall, B. Booker.

**Missing:** R. R. Manning.

**Inset:** O. O'Carroll.



## **The Jubilee Parade**

The Parade was for many people the highlight of the Jubilee weekend.

Sunday, 25th April, 1977, was a brilliantly fine day, and the Parade, leaving from the assembly area in Power's paddock, followed a route past the School, through the streets of Hawarden, and then to the Memorial Park. For the final leg, the Parade was led by the Forrester (Ex-pupils) Pipe Band. Among the colourful participants were the following:

Mr and Mrs J. J. O'Carroll with their well turned out horse and gig.

Mr L. O'Carroll with a genuine pack-horse.

Two magnificent Clydesdale horses in Scotch harness, brought by Mr Russell Dalzell.

Mrs Joan Crean (nee Earl) in period costume and riding side-saddle.

Pony Club members and other Ex-pupils followed in a mass horse display, the like of which is seldom seen.

Next came vintage cars with Max and Errol Smith driving their beautifully restored Willys Knights.

School children on decorated bicycles were somewhat disorganised but happy to be taking part in this colourful event.

Mr Dave Yorston made a grand effort by displaying an appropriate School bus for each decade of the School. These ranged from the old "Box" B4 Ford (Remember all those cream-cans down the middle of the seats), to the latest 44 (adults) seater Seddon luxury bus.

District organisations had entered floats, and notable among these were:

The Women's Institute, depicting wool from the sheep, (a real black lamb), via spinning to the finished garment.

The United Football Club had a miniature playing field complete with goal posts.

The Waipara County Historical Society float depicted life in the earlier school period. (The washing was hung out along the way).

Other floats included those from the Young Farmers' Club, The School, and Scouts and Guides.

The St. John Ambulance Association supported with a float, and were also available with their usual first aid care.

Members of the Hurunui Vintage Farm Machinery Club were responsible for most of the entries in this section, which was of course led by the Quigley's traction engines with their gleaming brass, and the whistle which was far enough back not to frighten the horses.

A threshing mill and whares followed and then a chaff-cutter.

There was a grand entry of vintage tractors, most notable among these was Malcolm Earls' very rare Avery.

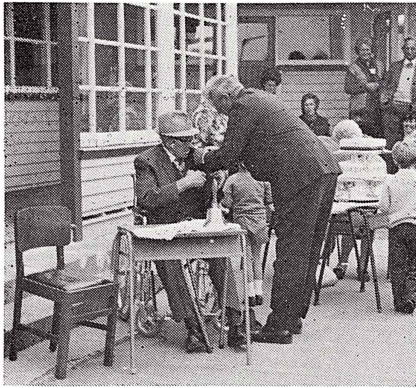
From start to finish this great Parade was over a mile long and the entries finally lined up in the Park for the crowd to make a closer inspection.

The population of Hawarden on this Jubilee Parade day was swollen to many times that given in any official figures, and people, lining the route from start to finish, spontaneously joined in the wonderful spirit of the occasion. Hawarden may never again see such a crowd.

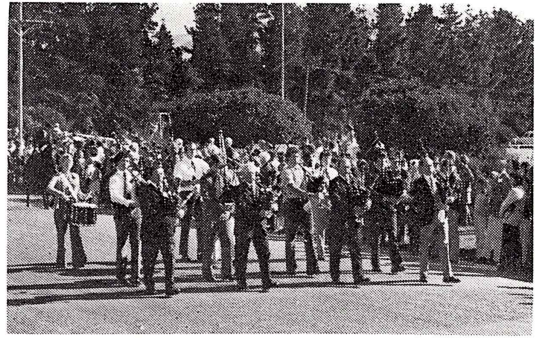
After a picnic lunch, the Vintage Machinery Club staged a threshing display, and this with Sports and Races for the young, and not so young, completed a most memorable days' events.

The Garden Club created spectacular floral displays round the main street poles and in the marquees and the Hawarden Hall. The Hawarden/Waikari Jaycee's commissioned special Jubilee teaspoons and key rings and sold them at the Jubilee.





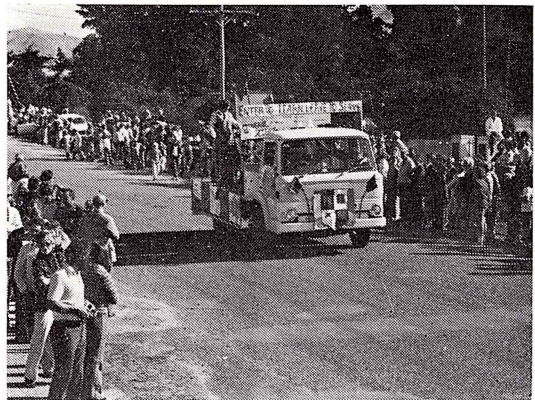
Mr W. Hewett rang the bell to start Jubilee proceedings



Former Pupils led the Parade



Roll-Call



The School float in the Parade



Cutting the cake  
Mrs Annie Stone (nee Topp) and  
Miss Winnifred White



10 post marquee  
It seated 1,000



## ***I went back to Hawarden for the 1977 Jubilee***

I had forgotten just how blue and beautiful were Te Koa and Te Kooti and their satellite hills standing ageless beyond the cluster of houses, garages, the shops, the Post Office, the War Memorial—that was Hawarden, the town. Fisher's shop is closed, the Hall is enlarged, an exciting new tavern, a scout Den and all the new houses and streets on the road to the school. Hasn't it spread! Yes right out into Kellock's paddock, and aren't the grounds looking spruce!

And the people, over 1,000 of them pouring out of cars, dressed in their best with happy expectant smiles, hurrying to join the gathering crowd. Shrieks of delight and surprise, welcoming embraces, rapid exchanges of news, those reminiscences of stories savoured in retrospect—"Guess who's here". "Have you met . . .". "Doesn't look a day older . . .". "You haven't changed a bit". "Did you know Old Bill Pier is here?".

There are seats for the oldies. Smoking their pipes and leaning back contentedly chatting, they "made it" to the Jubilee. They know they are lucky. "Poor old . . . Did you know he's gone? Good bloke. One of the best". But something is starting. The Chairman, David Reese, is making his speech of welcome. "Yes I remember his father before him—and the three youngest pupils, Scott Hare, Kathryn Sidey and David Evans present sprays to the oldest pupils here. That's Bill Hewitt from The Peaks ringing the bell, and Mrs Annie Stone (nee Topp) and Miss Winifred White cutting the cake—and is that little fellow Geoff Evans' grandson?"

They are calling the roll—Just the older pupils and each person stands proudly "Present Sir", just like in the old days at school. "Fancy old Ted being here. I must talk to him after".

We feel important with our decade ribbons on as they marshal us into groups

for photographs. Here's Mildred, old Bill Wright's daughter. He was chairman of the School Committee for years, and she always had a bit of fun about her. Married George Mason from Mason's Flat, and "Grannie" Pierce here, still with a twinkle in her eye. Didn't she love the cards when we ran euchre for funds for the school. And Alf Manning. I could tell a story or two about him! That's Les Baker—the whole Baker family is here. What a reunion! Wasn't there a Baker's dozen—thirteen of them? Hullo Mona, Dick Wright's daughter—she was secretary of the school Committee for a long time. There's Ruth Heasley. She was the Queen of the Carnival when they were raising funds for the swimming baths. They've got photographs in the school, Mollie Dwyer and Grace Dalzell were in the carnival weren't they? Must have a look at those photos.

Have they really got a display with the old school desks and slates, and the old uniform with the hats and hat bands for the girls, and caps for the boys, and Kath Quigley's dux medal? Wonder if they've found the Hampson Shield. Used to play rugby for it. Do you remember the fights on the sideline—especially when we played Waikari. It's a wonder they never joined the Hawarden school. Waikari always were rivals.

Is that right? They're having a parade on Sunday? John O'Carroll's gig and pack horse will be in it, and Joan Earl is riding side saddle. Of course she married Pat Crean. He ran the Deb Balls for the Ex Pupils Association with Jim and Belle Hewitt and Eidie O'Carroll. Old Tom Crean was the Caretaker at one time. Good to the kids he was. Yes I'm just off to get my photograph taken. I'm with the red ribbons. Oh they've taken their photographs. Have I really missed out? Well that's just like the younger generation. Always in a hurry; Never-mind! I must make sure I don't miss the Banquet.



### **The Banquet**

Over 1000 people were seated under canvas, and the catering was superb. The floral decorations were outstanding—typical of the detail and careful planning of the entire Jubilee Celebrations. The enthusiastic efforts of the Committee and their helpers contributed to the outstanding success this Hawarden District High School Jubilee certainly was.

The speakers excelled on this special occasion. There were some fitting tributes, and much sharing of happy memories.

Ray Hinchey, one of the most popular figures in the history of the school, replying to the toast to Teachers, Past and Present, paid a special tribute to Mr W. L. Stewart, whose widow and son attended the Jubilee. He said "I especially commend to your memory a former headmaster, the late Mr W. L. Stewart who deserved to be classed as an inspired teacher."

Mr "Nobby" Clarke, a former headmaster, in proposing the toast to the School Committees and Parent Teachers' Association, remarked on the amazing skills he discovered among the personnel of these bodies, and of the unstinting efforts of the members to contribute to the welfare of pupils in the school.

The infant Mistress, Miss Audrey Storer, appealed for sand to fill a sand pit for the infants under her charge. A truck and man power was soon forthcoming, and journeyed to the Hurunui River for the good quality sand available there. The shovel wielding team expertly filled the truck to capacity in a very short time, but "My God they took a long time to come home," he said.

Of course they had called at the "Stone Jug"—the colourful Hurunui Hotel—venue of many outrageous exploits. Miss Storer did however receive her sand the following day.

Comment was made on the enthusiasm of early committee members as they talked late into the night, sometimes fortified with a bottle of Scotch in their efforts to inaugurate school planning. The late Mr Jim Quigley was quoted as remarking that he was going to sell his blankets and buy a lantern!

What a kaleidoscope of memories, of people who, each one of them, contributed to make Hawarden the school of which we are all so proud.

—Joyce McIver



**Excerpt from address given by R. McVie,  
25 April, 1977, for the 50th Jubilee Celebrations  
and Anzac Service**

Let me speak briefly about the Home, the School and the Church.

We are all aware of the importance of the Home, the School and the Church in our lives, and in many respects as parents and teachers we fail. But we must realise the importance of the Home in children's lives. It is surprising to find in so called enlightened countries, an appalling lack of family life, and we are fast approaching a similar pattern here in New Zealand.

If the Home is very self-contained, if there is little love in it, if few friends drop in, if life hardly breaks through the walls, the effect on the children must be bad.

If the Home is a place where few books are read, no good music listened to, no pictures displayed, where no religious life exists, it will be a Home denuded of life. For make no mistake about it, BOOKS, MUSIC, ART and RELIGION are among the good influences upon the human spirit, and if we deprive them of these influences, we deprive them of vitality.

We want our schools to be places in which children learn sound knowledge, plenty of facts, many a skill, but if we do no more than teach knowledge, and facts and skills, they will be defective educationally, and defective in helping children to become good citizens or even to stay human.

We must not forget the development of CHARACTER and the need to produce pupils with high ideals. They must be encouraged to think, to question, to feel their responsibility for the future as individuals, to be encouraged to serve and to know their devotion will be noticed and accepted. They must be encouraged to achieve a feeling of accomplishment and worth in themselves. This is particularly important — a feeling of accomplishment and worth in themselves. This may be the area of our greatest failure as teachers. For a Nation's greatness depends upon the character of its people, and the greatest need of our land today is men, genuine men of character, of strong convictions, men of principles who are particular where right and wrong are concerned.





**MASONS FLAT**



**HURUNUI**





**MEDBURY**



**THE PEAKS**





**HORSLEY DOWN**



**HAWARDEN DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL—1927-36**





**School Committee Members**

(—), R. Dalzell, J. O'Carroll, G. Mason, J. Hewett, J. Wright, B. Purchas,  
T. Power, T. Hassall, D. Costello, W. Lilley, M. Earl, G. Hibbard, K. Earl, W. Wilson,  
J. Hassall, K. Yorston, H. Rich, M. Grimwood, W. Hewett, J. Fletcher, G. Philpott, R. Garden



**Staff Members**



## **Appendices**

### **Headmasters**

#### **MASON'S FLAT**

Opened 25th April, 1881

- 1881-84 Thomas and Elizabeth Brownlee.
- 1885-87 Edward and Marion Dickson
- 1888 Kate M. Wharton
- 1889-1900 Janet Campbell
- 1901-04 Jessie M. Picken
- 1905-08 Mary Wilkinson
- 1909-12 Mary J. Charles
- 1913-16 Nora Hickman
- 1917 Olive M. Hewitt
- 1918 Miss A. A. Eldridge
- 1919-21 Mr C. G. McAdam
- 1922-23 Lady J. Le Fleming
- 1924-25 Mrs E. H. Brooker
- 1926 Miss M. A. Pearce

#### **HURUNUI**

Opened 5th December, 1881

- 1881-82 Henry McLeur
- 1883-84 Henry Fox
- 1885 James Allison
- 1886-88 Henry Collins and Mary Collins
- 1889 Mary Wallace
- 1890-91 Annie Dalziel
- 1892-98 Aaron and Sarah Hyde
- 1899-1901 Irene Hare
- 1902 Mary Earsham
- 1903 Catherine E. Cosgrove
- 1904-05 Martha Mowatt
- 1906 Catherine Kealy
- 1907 Margaret Dalby
- 1908 Gladys Jackman
- 1909-10 Sarah Jackman
- 1911 Edna Roscoe
- 1912 Mary Earshman
- 1913 Nellie Brooker
- 1914-18 Ethel Dierce
- 1919-21 Miss E. R. Rivers
- 1922-25 Mrs J. D. Montgomery
- 1926 Mr B. Park

#### **HURUNUI SIDE SCHOOL**

1887 until March 1888 then

#### **MEDBURY**

- 1887-90 Frederick and Margaret Hayman
- 1891-1900 Joseph and Sarah J. Stewart
- 1901 Helen MacRae
- 1902-03 Flora J. Lezard
- 1904-07 Charlotte Ladbroke
- 1908 Mary A. Slocombe
- 1909-11 Hilda W. Gillespie
- 1912 Laura Jeffries (temporary)
- 1913-14 Minnie Moriarty
- 1915 Miss L. Chapman (temporary)  
End of year M. Moriarty
- 1916 Mrs E. H. Brooker
- 1917-18 Miss B. A. Barrell
- 1919-21 Mr G. W. Soal
- 1922-24 Miss E. R. Rivers
- 1925-26 Miss L. Quartermain

#### **WAITOHI**

1891-1899. Name changed to:

#### **THE PEAKS**

- 1891-99 Marguerite Little
- 1900-03 Georgina Roberts
- 1904 Catherine Kealy
- 1905 Sarah McGorman
- 1906 Katherine Montgomery
- 1907-09 Ada Andrews
- 1910-15 Olive Hewett
- 1916-17 Miss A. Chisholm
- 1918 Mrs M. Schultz
- 1919-20 Miss E. Sloss
- 1921 Mrs E. H. Brooker
- 1922-24 Miss M. H. Moore
- 1925-26 Miss I. Slocombe

## **HORSLEY DOWN**

Opened 1902

1902-03 Alice Buxton  
1904-05 Catherine Cosgrove  
1906 Edith Sunaway  
1907-10 Elizabeth Hampton  
1911 Roberta Mitchell  
1912 Martha Halliburton  
1913-14 Martha Halliburton  
Gertrude Leahy  
1915 Martha Halliburton  
1916-18 Miss M. Davidson  
1919 Mr B. E. Arnold  
1920 Miss G. Fitch  
1921 Mr B. E. Arnold  
1922 Mr R. Learmonth  
1923 Mr F. W. Coleman  
1924-26 Mr R. M. Clague

## **HAWARDEN**

### **CONSOLIDATED SCHOOL**

later

## **HAWARDEN**

### **DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL**

Opened Saturday, 16th July, 1927, by the Minister for Education, with local M.P. Mr Forbes present. A luncheon was then held in the Saleyards Hall. The school roll began in the third term when all the contributing schools were present (30th September).

1927 Mr R. M. Clague

1928-Aug. 1933

Mr D. G. Wilson

Sept. 1933-37

Mr H. J. Mackie

1938-40 Mr J. E. Maxwell

1941 (2nd term)

Mr D. E. Brown (acting)

1941-43 Mr E. R. McClatchy

1944-May 1947

Mr F. M. O'Donoghue

1947-52 Mr W. L. Stewart

1952 Mr B. Tindale (acting)

1952-55 Mr J. E. Clemens

1956-60 Mr N. B. Clarke

1961-67 Mr R. W. McVie

1968-75 Mr T. E. M. Harper

1976 Mr F. Dodd

1977 Mr J. Pilkington





**First School Committee of the Consolidated  
School (elected at a Public Meeting held  
9th September, 1927)**

Mr W. L. Wright (Chairman)  
O. Miles  
J. W. Warwick (Secretary)  
W. Hewitt  
E. W. Johnston  
H. H. Brooker  
J. K. Forrester

**The Last School Committee of the Hawarden  
District High School**

J. R. Zino  
F. R. Meyer  
V. B. Jenson  
P. Snelling  
B. R. D. Purchas  
W. J. C. Wilson  
D. A. Reese  
T. C. Power  
K. A. Yorston  
Mrs J. Francis  
T. D. Costello (chairman)  
Mrs G. Hibbard (secretary)  
B. R. D. Purchas replaced P. Snelling

**The First Committee of Management for the  
Hawarden Area School**

J. R. Zino  
V. B. Jenson  
B. R. D. Purchas  
D. A. Reese  
Mrs J. Francis  
F. E. Booker  
T. Molloy  
M. Brown  
K. Dunbar (Education Board Member)  
W. J. C. Wilson (chairman)  
Mrs G. Hibbard (secretary)

# **First Pupils Enrolled at Hawarden Consolidated School, 13 September 1927**

No.	Names	School	Date of Birth
1	Bunting, Colin John Frederick	Mason's Flat	17-10-13
2	Davey, Raymond	Horsley Down	27-4-15
3	Foster, Murray	Horsley Down	26-2-14
4	Quinlivan, Mervyn	Horsley Down	23-4-14
5	Thomas, Lawerance A.	Horsley Down	7-12-13
6	Wright, George	Horsley Down	12-4-14
7	Galletly, Stella	Hurunui	17-12-13
8	Mason, Elsie	Mason's Flat	25-4-13
9	Mason, Vera	Mason's Flat	10-6-13
10	Pohl, Amalia	Mason's Flat	14-11-12
11	Quigley, Emily Kathleen	The Peaks	14-10-14
12	Quinlivan, Floris	Horsley Down	5-8-12
13	Turnball, Esther Louisa	Medbury	14-5-14
14	Bunting, Maurice Thomas	Mason's Flat	18-1-15
15	Hoban, Oscar	Horsley Down	16-8-14
16	Hotan, Raymond	Horsley Down	3-3-13
17	Mason, Dudley	Mason's Flat	28-11-14
18	Quigley, Logan	The Peaks	21-10-15
19	Thornley, Allen	The Peaks	24-7-13
20	Thornley, Malcolm	The Peaks	15-4-12
21	Watson, George	The Peaks	19-9-13
22	Wright, Maurice	The Peaks	25-9-15
23	Earl, Olive Edith	Mason's Flat	3-10-13
24	Hewett, Dorothy Myrtle	The Peaks	15-5-16
25	Jury, Hannah Jane	Mason's Flat	4-7-12
26	Leary, Nora	Mason's Flat	13-9-13
27	Miles, Eva	Horsley Down	26-6-13
28	Shaw, Rosalie	Mason's Flat	20-9-14
29	Stanton, Delia	Horsley Down	2-2-15
30	Thomas, Adèle	Horsley Down	10-10-14
31	Thomas, Dorothy	Horsley Down	8-4-15
32	Bamford, Montague Maxwell	Hurunui	15-5-16
33	Butler, Basil	Hurunui	22-8-16
34	Bunting, James W.	Masons Flat	24-7-17
35	Dalzell, Bruce	Mason's Flat	25-1-17
36	Doak, Peter William	Horsley Down	2-6-15
37	Dwyer, Leslie	Horsley Down	31-1-15
38	Fisher, David	Horsley Down	5-3-17
39	Forrester, Frank Kilsyth	Hurunui	9-5-16
40	Foster, Athol	Horsley Down	22-6-17
41	Leary, Patrick	Mason's Flat	16-3-18
42	Mason, Reginald	Mason's Flat	9-8-17
43	McKeegan, William Relph	The Peaks	15-2-19
44	Pohl, Alexander	Mason's Flat	29-10-16



No.	Names	School	Date of Birth
45	Quigley, Andrew	The Peaks	21-6-17
46	Quinlivan, Verdun	Horsley Down	19-9-16
47	Stanton, Frank	Horsley Down	30-11-13
48	Stanton, Thomas	Horsley Down	23-6-16
49	Thornley, Hector	The Peaks	28-8-17
50	Thornley, Stanley	The Peaks	17-9-15
51	McCready, Estlin	The Peaks	4-2-18
52	Craig, Doris Emily	Medbury	23-4-18
53	Gray, Rita May	Medbury	21-4-16
54	Hoban, Noelle	Horsley Down	10-12-16
55	Lukey, Francis H. G.	Mason's Flat	30-6-20
56	Mason, Rhoda	Mason's Flat	5-3-18
57	Murray, Agnes Jean	Hurunui	17-2-18
58	O'Connor, Sylvia	Horsley Down	20-9-15
59	Pohl, Mary	Mason's Flat	6-6-18
60	Waterland, Lilian Olive	Mason's Flat	7-8-16
61	Watson, Margaret	The Peaks	11-5-15
62	Luckie, Mary	Mason's Flat	18-12-16
63	Craig, Neil Robin	Medbury	27-9-16
64	Hewett, James	The Peaks	31-7-17
65	Honeybone, Raymond	Medbury	10-4-16
66	Johnson, Douglas Thomas	Mason's Flat	28-9-12
67	Murray, Douglas	Hurunui	10-7-16
68	Murray, Edward	Hurunui	5-1-15
69	Quinlivan, Fred	Horsley Down	4-7-15
70	Thomas, Dwight	Horsley Down	27-10-13
71	Toschack, Keith Laidlow	Medbury	12-5-16
72	Turnbull, John	Medbury	25-4-16
73	Watson, Ralph	Horsley Down	20-3-15
74	Weir, William John	Hurunui	9-4-14
75	Brooker, Una Alison Webb	Medbury	2-1-17
76	Craig, Ellen Catherine	Medbury	2-10-15
77	Hodgen, Reta Nancy	Mason's Flat	14-5-17
78	Jury, Phyllis	Mason's Flat	20-10-14
79	Shelley, Mary	Horsley Down	1-8-17
80	Manning, Lilian	The Peaks	27-3-15
81	McKay, Patricia Jean	Hurunui	22-2-16
82	Watson, Thelma	Horsley Down	15-5-16
83	Bamford, Terence	Hurunui	3-11-18
84	Bunting, Francis	Mason's Flat	24-7-17
85	Davey, Norman Edwin Hugh	Horsley Down	19-12-18
86	Galletly, Ronald	Hurunui	12-3-18
87	Gilbert, Herbert Norman	Medbury	20-3-18
88	Gray, James	Medbury	22-8-18
89	Johnson, Percy Lamont	Mason's Flat	23-1-17
90	Jury, Angus	Mason's Flat	1-2-18
91	McKay, Anthony Donald	Hurunui	13-6-17
92	McKie, Douglas Charles	Horsley Down	8-9-17

No.	Names	School	Date of Birth
93	Quinlivan, Dudley	Horsley Down	18-3-18
94	Tiplady, Donald		
	William Hugh	Horsley Down	26-11-17
95	Stanton, Mary Monica	Horsley Down	9-2-18
96	Stancombe, William	Mason's Flat	1-8-15
97	Watson, Herbert	The Peaks	28-8-18
98	Butler, Dorothy	Hurunui	29-9-18
99	Kennedy, Helen	The Peaks	19-12-18
100	Waters, Claire	Horsley Down	1-7-14
101	Weir, Jessie		
	Elizabeth	Hurunui	14-9-15
102	Wood, Marjorie Alwyn		
	L.	Horsley Down	14-8-18
103	O'Connor, Marjorie	Horsley Down	22-3-18
104	Battersby, Robert		
	William	Hurunui	24-4-19
105	Craig, Walter Ross	Medbury	19-10-19
106	Crean, James Patrick	Mason's Flat	7-8-18
107	Costello, Maurice	The Peaks	4-2-20
108	Draper, James Clifford	Horsley Down	28-6-19
109	McElwain, Clarence	Medbury	10-10-17
110	McKay, Jack	Medbury	
111	Galletly, George		
	Arnold	Horsley Down	11-6-19
112	Watson, Trevor William	Horsley Down	22-1-19
113	Wright, Clifford John	Horsley Down	15-6-20
114	Earl, Ruby Snow	Mason's Flat	2-7-18
115	Hoban, Margaret Lilian	Horsley Down	2-2-19
116	Kennedy, Marian	The Peaks	2-7-17
117	Leary, Agatha		
	Kathleen	Mason's Flat	20-7-20
118	McKay, Monica Mary	Hurunui	4-3-19
119	McKie, Marjorie Hope	Horsley Down	3-4-19
120	Quinlivan, Bettie	Mason's Flat	5-9-18
	Madeline		
121	Shaw, Sylvia Winifred	Horsley Down	25-10-18
122	Thomas, Alwyn		
	Gwenyth	Horsley Down	5-9-19
123	Tiplady, Jessie Grace	Horsley Down	5-2-19
124	Waters, Cicely J.	Horsley Down	2-12-18
125	Wood, Dorothy Mabel	Horsley Down	12-4-20
126	Burt, Murray Alexander	Horsley Down	30-1-21
127	Ginders, Thomas Edgar	Medbury	-6-20
128	Hoban, Douglas	Horsley Down	25-10-20
129	Stanton, John	Horsley Down	28-3-20
130	Symes, Gordon	The Peaks	9-10-20
131	Warwick, William		
	James John	Horsley Down	10-9-20
132	Wills, Arthur	Hurunui	10-3-20
133	Bamford, Norbert	Hurunui	6-6-21
134	Baker, Rex Webster	Horsley Down	7-3-21
135	Craig, Colin Norville	Medbury	10-7-21
136	Mason, Edward George	Mason's Flat	11-8-21
137	Pohl, Ernest	Mason's Flat	29-4-21
138	Plaisted, Edwin	Hurunui	10-8-21



No.	Names	School	Date of Birth
139	O'Connor, Edward Patrick	Horsley Down	13-5-21
140	Pierce, William George	Horsley Down	4-10-20
141	Pierce, Edward John	Horsley Down	4-10-20
142	Quinlivan, William	Horsley Down	26-1-22
143	Shelley, Leo Edward Jason	Horsley Down	24-12-21
144	Tiplady, Albert Charles	Horsley Down	22-4-20
145	Laidlow, Ian	Horsley Down	4-6-22
146	Bunting, Gordon	Mason's Flat	6-3-22
147	Stanton, James Edward	Horsley Down	26-10-21
148	Warwick, James Finch	Horsley Down	27-7-22
149	Watson, Douglas	Horsley Down	4-11-21
150	Wilding, Donald	Mason's Flat	20-9-20
151	Costello, Douglas Keith	Mason's Flat	6-4-22
152	Hoban, Edward Maurice	None	16-11-21
153	Mahon, Ken	Mason's Flat	14-3-22
154	McElwain, Walter Fred	Medbury	30-11-21
155	Twiss, Brian	St Joseph CH.	30-6-22
156	Gray, Annabel	Medbury	14-9-20
157	Heasley, Ruth Elizabeth	Horsley Down	2-1-21
158	Quinlivan, Veronica Margaret	Horsley Down	25-7-20
159	Suridge, Joyce Fiona	Horsley Down	14-8-20
160	Webb, Joyce	Horsley Down	4-4-21
161	Wood, Moira Stuart McG.	Horsley Down	9-12-21
162	Kennedy, Lilian	The Peaks	27-10-20
163	Weir, Gladys Mabel	Hurunui	6-9-18
164	Hoban, Mary Bridan	Cash. F. Air	27-11-20
165	Brice, Alma Joan	Horsley Down	27-3-21
166	Haley, Nola Brenda	Horsley Down	31-10-20
167	Hayward, Noeline Mary	Mason's Flat	5-12-21
168	Heasley, Ellen Jean	Horsley Down	16-5-22
169	Johnson, Phyllis	Mason's Flat	5-2-21
170	Pierce, Dorothy Elizabeth	Horsley Down	29-1-22
171	Stancombe, Rachel Elizabeth	Mason's Flat	4-8-20
172	Waterland, Susan	Mason's Flat	5-9-20
173	Wattie, Enid Margaret	Horsley Down	3-2-20
174	Weir, Ella	Hurunui	25-4-20
175	Plaisted, Winifred Agnes	Hurunui	29-6-20
176	Weir, Winifred Florence	Hurunui	8-1-17
177	Burt, Nettie Elizabeth	Horsley Down	10-6-22
178	Foster, Peggy Francis	Horsley Down	12-11-21
179	Kennedy, Isobel	The Peaks	2-1-22
180	Waterland, Evelyn M	Mason's Flat	22-12-21

# **Hawarden District High School**

## **Honours**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Degree</b>	<b>Left</b>
Peter Dunbar	M.P.S.	1938
Clifford Wright	M.A.	1939
Graham Dunbar	M.Ag.Sc.	1943
Barbara Diehl	B.A.	1947
Robert Garden	M.Sc.	1949
Brian Earl	Ph.D.	1953
Graeme McCort	B.Sc.	1954
Hamish Warren	B.A.	1955
Moir Dalzell	B.A.	1956
Ruth Wright	Dip.H.Sc.	1956
Estelle Binning	Dip.H.Sc.	1956
Leonard Blackwell	Ph.D.	1958
Anne Uren	B.Sc.	1958
Pauline Harris	M.A. Hons.	1958
Grant Jamieson	B.D.S.	1959
Marjorie Binning	B.Sc.	1959
Anthony Mander	B.Sc.	1959
Terence Reid	B.Sc.	1959
Peter Clarke	B.A.	1960
Ronald Gold	B.E.	1963
David Johnston	M.A.	1963
Adrienne Earl	B.Sc.	1965
Christopher Ecroyd	B.Sc. Hons.	1966
Lyndsay Gates	B.Com.	1966
Jennifer Mander	B.Sc. Hons.	1967
Anne Fraser	B.A.	1967
Alan Hibbard	B.E.	1967
Isabel Mitchell	LL.B.	1967
Gloria Green	Dip.H.Sc.	1967
John Harper	Dip.Ag.	1967
Peter Harper	B.A.	1969



## ***Bibliography***

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Valuable information was obtained from the Canterbury Education Board on staff records, buildings, and other details concerning land transactions and surveys.

A most valuable source was minute books from School Committee meetings kept from its inception. These records were reliable and accurate providing verification of facts gleaned from other areas.

Copies of the "Christchurch Press" and the "Education Gazette" filed with the Christchurch Public Library were consulted.

Former pupils and staff were approached for material, photographs and stories, though the response from this source was rather disappointing.

The Waipara Historical Society, The Lands and Survey Department, The Alexander Turnbull Library were other organisations consulted.

A Publication used in the compiling of this history included The Cyclopaedia of New Zealand, the Canterbury Provincial Volume. Other local publications did not include local schooling.











